

[INFORMAL DOCUMENT]

**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**

Sixty-ninth session

(19 February – 9 March 2018)

Annex I

**Report of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional
Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
Discrimination against Women on its fortieth session**

1. The Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women held its fortieth session from 13 to 16 February 2018 in Geneva. Five members attended the session: Gladys Acosta Vargas (Vice-Chair), Yoko Hayashi, Lia Nadaraia, Aruna Devi Narain,¹ and Patricia Schulz (Chair).

2. At the beginning of the session, the Working Group paid tribute to Theodora Oby Nwankwo, who passed away on 9 December 2017. It also adopted the agenda as set out in appendix I to the present report.

3. The Working Group decided to register a new communication against Argentina, for which Ms. Acosta Vargas was appointed as case Rapporteur (an updated table of cases and rapporteurs is contained in appendix II to the present report).

4. The Working Group discussed four draft recommendations: Two draft inadmissibility decisions in relation to communications Nos. 80/2015 and 85/2015 both concerning Denmark (non-refoulement) as well as two draft views in relation to communications Nos. 88/2015 concerning Timor-Leste (domestic violence) and 103/2016 concerning Finland (domestic violence). The Working Group adopted these recommendations by consensus and decided to refer them to the Committee for adoption.

5. Taking into account the priority to be given to cases with interim measures in place, the chronological order of registration, regional representation, and thematic issues of importance for the Committee's jurisprudence, the Working Group decided to discuss at its forty-first session four draft recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 73/2014 and 76/2014 both concerning Denmark (non-refoulement), No. 92/2015 concerning Turkey (child custody) and No. 106/2016 concerning the United Kingdom (child custody).

6. The Working Group decided to request meetings with representatives of the Permanent Missions of Spain and Brazil during the sixty-ninth session of the Committee to discuss follow-up to the views of the Committee in relation to communications Nos. 47/2012, *Gonzales Carreño v. Spain*, and 17/2008, *Pimentel v. Brazil*.

¹ Ms. Narain replaced the late Ms. Nwankwo as a member of the Working Group.

Actions taken at the present session

7. The Working Group decided:

(a) To refer, for adoption by the Committee, four recommendations: Two draft inadmissibility decisions in relation to communications Nos. 80/2015 and 85/2015 both concerning Denmark (non-refoulement), as well as two draft views in relation to communications Nos. 88/2015 concerning Timor-Leste (domestic violence) and 103/2016 concerning Finland (domestic violence).

(b) To request the Secretariat to prepare for the forty-first session of the Working Group four draft recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 73/2014 and 76/2014 both concerning Denmark (non-refoulement), No. 92/2015 concerning Turkey (child custody) and No. 106/2016 concerning the United Kingdom (child custody).

(c) To register one new communication concerning Argentina and to appoint Ms. Acosta Vargas as case rapporteur.

(d) To request the Secretariat to arrange a meeting with representatives of the Permanent Missions of Spain and Brazil to discuss follow-up to the Committee's views in relation to communications Nos. 47/2012, *Gonzales Carreño v. Spain*, and 17/2008, *Pimentel v. Brazil*.

14. The Working Group decided to hold its forty-first session from 27 to 29 June 2018 in Geneva.

Appendix I

Agenda

Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol

Fortieth session (Geneva 13-16 February 2018)

Room XVI, Palais des Nations

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
 2. Review of steps and activities undertaken since the last session
 3. New communications registered and appointment of case rapporteurs
 4. Update on communications (registered cases)
 5. Update on follow-up to Views
 6. Discussion on working methods
 7. Adoption of draft recommendations
 8. Adoption of the report concerning the fortieth session of the Working Group
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