

## **Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

**Name (family name, first name):** NARAIN Aruna Devi

**Nationality:** Mauritian

**Date and place of birth:** 8 July 1968, Mauritius

**Working languages:** English, French

**Current position/function:**

- Judge, Supreme Court of Republic of Mauritius
- Occasional Resource Person at Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies (IJLS), Mauritius
- Member, CEDAW Committee (2017-18)

**Main professional activities<sup>1</sup>:**

- (As Judge) Hearing and determining constitutional, criminal and civil matters at first instance and appellate levels
- (At IJLS) Giving lectures on Constitutional Law and Human Rights to current and future members of the legal profession
- (As member of CEDAW Committee) Member of various working groups and Vice Chairperson of Working Group on Working Methods
- Law Officer at Attorney General's Office (1993-2015)
- Chief Programme Officer, Legal and Constitutional Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, London. (September 2003- April 2004). <sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

**Educational background:**

- LL.B, London School of Economics, University of London (1990)
- LL.M, London School of Economics, University of London (1992)
- Called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, London and to the Mauritian Bar (1992)

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women:**

- Have appeared as Counsel in constitutional cases, including cases on discrimination, before Supreme Court of Mauritius and Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.
- Have been involved in the preparation of all Government reports submitted by Mauritius to human rights treaty bodies, including the CEDAW Committee, between 1995 and 2015, and appeared before various human rights treaty bodies, including Human Rights Committee. Active Member of Government delegation at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Mauritius before the Human Rights Council (2008).
- Gave legal advice on a regular basis to the Ministry of Women's Rights (now Ministry of Gender) on numerous issues, including those pertaining to the implementation of CEDAW and other human rights instruments.

**List of most recent publications in the field of discrimination against women and advancement of their human rights:**

No recent publication in specific field of discrimination against women. However, have written judgments on non-discrimination and domestic violence. As former Parliamentary Counsel (2011-15), have drafted and vetted Bills on non-discrimination, domestic violence, women's rights and issues. As former Member of Law Reform Commission, have contributed to reports on constitutional matters, including women's rights.

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women requires participation in three annual sessions of three weeks duration, plus participation (on a rotating basis) in a pre-session working group of one week in respect of each session.