

[INFORMAL DOCUMENT]

CEDAW/C/2015/II/CRP

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

**Sixty-first session
(6 – 24 July 2015)**

Chapter I

Matters brought to the attention of States parties

Decisions

Decision 61/1

Women's access to justice

On 24 July 2015, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 33 on women's access to justice, by consensus (see <http://goo.gl/YGNp6I>).

Decision 61/2

Guidelines on reprisals

On 24 July 2015, the Committee took note of the guidelines on reprisals endorsed by the twenty-seventh meeting of chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies held in San José, Costa Rica, from 22 to 26 June 2015 ("San José Guidelines"; A/70/..., para...) and decided at this stage that:

- a) The Bureau of the Committee shall continue to act as focal point on intimidation or reprisals, including inter-sessionally;
- b) The Bureau shall determine, by consensus and in consultation with the plenary, the appropriate course of action to be taken in response to substantiated allegations of intimidation or reprisals against individuals or groups for seeking to cooperate or cooperating with the Committee. Inter-sessionally, the Bureau shall keep the other Committee members duly informed; and
- c) The Committee will consider the guidelines further with a view to adapting and developing these to best reflect its particular context, mandate and experience.

Decision 61/3

Elaboration of and consultations on general recommendations

On 24 July 2015, the Committee took note of the elements for the elaboration of and consultations on general comments/ general recommendations endorsed by the twenty-seventh meeting of chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies (A/70/..., para..., sub-para...) and decided:

- a) That the elements contained in sub-paragraphs a), b), d) and h) are in line with the Committee's existing practice;
- b) To adopt the element contained in sub-paragraph c);
- c) To further look into the implications of the elements contained in sub-paragraphs e) and g); and
- d) To adopt the elements contained in sub-paragraph f) on the understanding that the advance version of a draft general recommendation is posted on the OHCHR website at a stage to be decided by the respective working group of the Committee.

Decision 61/4

Backlog of individual communications

The Committee decided that the growing number of individual communications registered for examination under article 2 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention and the backlog of cases ready for adoption are a cause of concern given the incapacity of the Petitions and Inquiries Section, Human Rights Treaties Division, to prepare more than three to four drafts per session. Bearing in mind its own time constraints, the Committee decided to invite the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urgently explore ways and means to effectively address this situation in order to avoid delays in the adoption of decisions in cases ready for adoption and the creation of an extensive backlog of pending cases.

Decision 61/5

Reminders to States parties with long overdue reports

The Committee decided to request the Secretariat to send reminders to all States parties whose reports are more than five years overdue.

Decision 61/6

Consideration of States parties in the absence of a report

In accordance with its decision 51/1, the Committee decided to send a last reminder to Antigua and Barbuda to submit its combined fourth to seventh periodic reports by 31 January 2016 and, failing this, to schedule the consideration of Antigua and Barbuda in the absence of a report at its sixty-fifth session in October/November 2016.

Decision 61/7

CEDAW-UN Women/SDG working group

The Committee decided to mandate its CEDAW-UN Women working group to explore ways and means for further developing and monitoring indicators for target 5.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals (“End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere”), in collaboration with UN Women. It also decided that the working group shall be renamed “CEDAW-UN Women/SDG working group” and that it shall have open membership.

Decision 61/8

Focal point on gender, HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and rights

The Committee decided to merge its focal point on gender and HIV/AIDS and its focal point on sexual and reproductive rights into one focal point on gender, HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and rights, and to confirm Louiza Chalal, Theodora Oby Nwankwo and Patricia Schulz as co-focal points.

Decision 61/9

Pre-Session Working Group

The Committee confirmed the members of the pre-session working group for the sixty-third session, i.e., Nicole Ameline, Magalys Arocha, Hilary Gbedemah, Ismat Jahan, and Dalia Leinarte.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

A. States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to the Optional Protocol

As at 24 July 2015, the closing date of the sixty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, there were 189 States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 and opened for signature, ratification and accession in New York on 1 March 1980. In accordance with its article 27, the Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981. In addition, 70 Contracting States had accepted the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, concerning the Committee's meeting time. A total of 126 States parties to the Convention are currently required to accept the amendment in order to bring it into force, in accordance with its provisions.

As at the same date, there were 106 States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/4 and opened for signature, ratification and accession in New York on 10 December 1999. In accordance with its article 16, the Optional Protocol entered into force on 22 December 2000.

Updated information on the status of the Convention, the amendment to the Convention and its Optional Protocol, as well as lists of States signatories and parties and the texts of declarations, reservations, objections and other relevant information are available from the website of the United Nations Treaty Collection (<http://treaties.un.org>).

B. Opening of the session

The Committee held its sixty-first session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 6 to 24 July 2015. The Committee held 19 plenary meetings, and also held 8 meetings to discuss agenda items 5, 6, 7 and 8. A list of the documents before the Committee is contained in annex [...] to the present report.

The session was opened by the Chairperson of the Committee, Yoko Hayashi, at its 1305th meeting on 6 July 2015.

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Committee adopted the provisional agenda (CEDAW/C/61/1) at its 1305th meeting.

D. Report of the pre-session working group

The report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/61/1), which met from 10 to 14 November 2014, was introduced by Patricia Schulz at the 1305th meeting.

E. Organization of work

On 6 and 13 July 2015, the Committee held closed meetings with representatives of specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, during which country-specific information was provided, as well as information on the efforts made by those bodies to support the implementation of the Convention.

Also on 6 and 13 July, 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 considered by the Committee at its sixty-first session.

On 15 July, the Committee met for an informal discussion on “The changing scenario in international development practice and its possible consequences for the assessment of economic, social and cultural rights of women during the constructive dialogues”. The meeting was hosted by the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and sponsored by the Geneva treaty body platform.

On 20 July, the Committee was briefed via audio conference by Shara Razavi, Chief of the Research and Data Section, UN Women, on the proposed indicators for SDG target 5.1.

On 23 July, the Committee was briefed by Megan Davis, Chairperson and gender focal point of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, on issues relating to indigenous women’s rights.

F. Membership of the Committee

All members attended the sixtieth session. The following members did not attend the session on the indicated dates: Bakhita Al-Dosari, from 20 to 24 July; Nicole Ameline, from 6 to 9 July; Barbara Bailey, from 6 to 10 July; Niklas Bruun, on 24 July; Louiza Chalal, on 24 July; Naela Gabr, on 20 July; Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, on 10 and 24 July; and Theodora Oby Nwankwo, from 6 to 10 July. A list of members of the Committee, indicating the duration of their terms of office, is annexed to the present report.

Chapter III

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions of the Committee

At the 1305th meeting, the Chairperson, Yoko Hayashi, presented her report on the activities she had undertaken since the sixtieth session of the Committee.

Chapter IV

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

At its sixty-first session, the Committee considered the reports of eight States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention: the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Bolivia; the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Croatia; the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Gambia; the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Namibia; the combined fourth to eighth periodic reports of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; the combined third to seventh periodic reports of Senegal; the combined seventh and eighth periodic reports of Spain; and the combined seventh and eighth periodic reports of Vietnam.

The Committee prepared concluding observations on each of the reports considered. Those observations are available through the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org/>) under the symbol numbers indicated below:

Bolivia (CEDAW/C/BOL/5-6)

Croatia (CEDAW/C/HRV/4-5)
The Gambia (CEDAW/C/GMB/4-5)
Namibia (CEDAW/C/NAM/4-5)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (CEDAW/C/VCT/4-8)
Senegal (CEDAW/C/SEN/3-7)
Spain (CEDAW/C/ESP/7-8)
Vietnam (CEDAW/C/VNM/7-8)

B. Follow-up procedures relating to concluding observations

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

- 1) Chile (CEDAW/C/CHL/CO/5-6/Add.1)
- 2) Cyprus (CEDAW/C/CYP/CO/6-7/Add.1)
- 3) Hungary (CEDAW/C/HUN/CO/7-8/Add.1)
- 4) Kuwait (CEDAW/C/KWT/CO/3-4/Add.1)
- 5) Malta (CEDAW/C/MLT/CO/4/Add.1)
- 6) Mexico (CEDAW/C/MEX/CO/7-8/Add.1)
- 7) The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (CEDAW/C/MKD/CO/4-5/Add.1)
- 8) Turkmenistan (CEDAW/C/TKM/CO/4/Add.1)

The Committee sent a first reminder to Pakistan whose follow-up report was overdue.

The Committee sent second reminders to the following States parties whose follow-up reports were overdue:

- 1) Guyana
- 2) Indonesia
- 3) Jamaica
- 4) Samoa

The Committee sent a reminder to Lesotho regarding the submission of additional information which was overdue.

The rapporteur on follow-up met with representatives of Uganda whose follow-up report was overdue.

Chapter V

Activities carried out under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 12 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women provides that the Committee shall include in its annual report under article 21 of the Convention a summary of its activities under the Optional Protocol.

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

The Committee discussed activities under article 2 of the Optional Protocol on 13 and 23 July 2015. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on

Communications under the Optional Protocol regarding its thirty-second session (see annex 1).

The Committee examined four individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted four final decisions, finding a violation in two cases concerning Georgia and Ukraine, respectively, and declaring two cases concerning Denmark and the Netherlands, respectively, inadmissible. All decisions were adopted by consensus. The text of the final decisions of the Committee will be available once they have been finalized and sent to the respective parties. It can be found through the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org/>) or through the website (<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CEDAW/Pages/Jurisprudence.aspx>) or the newly established database (<http://juris.ohchr.org/>) of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

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

The Committee was informed that the Working Group, during its thirty-second session, had discussed the follow-up situation in each case where the follow-up dialogue was ongoing and that it had agreed on the action to be taken. Of the 9 cases that are currently under follow-up examination, one relates to Brazil, three to Bulgaria and one each to Canada, the Netherlands, Peru, the Philippines and Spain. The Committee decided that in each of those cases the follow-up dialogue remains ongoing. In another case, No. 28/2010, *R.K.B. v. Turkey*, the Committee decided to put the follow-up dialogue to a close with a finding of a partially satisfactory resolution of the recommendations contained in its views. The Committee requested to have meetings arranged during its sixty-second session with the Permanent Missions of Canada, the Philippines and Peru to discuss follow-up matters.

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

The Committee discussed activities under article 8 of the Optional Protocol on 23 July 2015. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol regarding its first session (see annex 2).

The Committee adopted the following recommendations of the working group on inquiries in relation to pending inquiry proceedings:

(a) In relation to inquiry 2010/1 concerning the Philippines, to raise questions on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in the list of issues and questions to be established by the pre-sessional working group for the sixty-fourth session of the Committee.

(b) In relation to inquiry 2011/1 concerning Canada, to start a follow-up process;

(c) In relation to submission No. 2011/2, to conduct an inquiry and to transmit its decision to the State party concerned;

(d) In relation to submission No. 2011/4, to request the State party concerned to submit, within two months, observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 of the Optional Protocol;

(e) In relation to submission No. 2013/2, not to conduct an inquiry.

The Committee ratified the following decisions made by the working group on inquiries:

(a) In relation to submission No. 2011/3, to defer to the second session of the working group its consideration as to whether or not to recommend to the Committee to conduct an inquiry;

(b) In relation to submission No. 2012/1, to send a reminder to the source of information asking it to provide additional information;

(c) In relation to submission No. 2014/2, to arrange a meeting during the Committee's sixty-first session with representatives of the Permanent Mission of the State party concerned to the United Nations Office at Geneva to follow up on the Committee's request for the State party's observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 of the Optional Protocol.

In relation to inquiries No. 2013/1 and 2014/1, the Committee decided in each case to send a reminder to the State party concerned requesting its consent to a visit to its territory.

In relation to submission No. 2014/3, the Committee decided to extend until 1 October 2015 the time limit for the State party concerned to submit observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 of the Optional Protocol.

Chapter VI

A. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

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

On 6 July 2015, the Committee was briefed on the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, held in San José, Costa Rica, from 22 to 26 June 2015, in which Yoko Hayashi participated.

B. Action taken by the Committee under agenda item 7

Dates of future sessions of the Committee

In accordance with the calendar of conferences, the following dates are confirmed for the Committee's sixty-second and sixty-third sessions:

Sixty-second Session (Geneva)

Thirty-third session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 20 to 23 October 2015

Second session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 21 to 23 October 2015

Sixty-second session: 26 October to 20 November 2015

Pre-session working group for the sixty-fourth session: 23 to 27 November 2015

Sixty-third Session (Geneva)

Thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 9 to 12 February 2016 (tbc)

Third session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 11 to 12 February 2016 (tbc)

Sixty-third session: 15 February to 4 March July 2016 (tbc)

Pre-session working group for the sixty-fifth session: 7 to 11 March 2016 (tbc)

Reports to be considered at future sessions of the Committee

The Committee confirmed that it will consider the reports of the following States parties at its sixty-second and sixty-third sessions:

Sixty-second session:

- 1) Lebanon
- 2) Liberia
- 3) Madagascar
- 4) Malawi
- 5) Portugal
- 6) Russia
- 7) Slovakia
- 8) Slovenia
- 9) Timor Leste
- 10) United Arab Emirates
- 11) Uzbekistan

Sixty-third session:

- 1) Czech Republic
- 2) Iceland
- 3) Japan
- 4) Haiti
- 5) Mongolia
- 6) Sweden
- 7) Tanzania
- 8) Vanuatu

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

A. Action taken by the Committee under agenda item 6

Task force on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations

The task force met during the session.

Working Group on women and access to justice

The working group met during the session.

On 21 July 2015, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 33 on women's access to justice by consensus,¹ in accordance with rule 31 of the

¹ The following members were present during the adoption: Ayse Feride Acar, Gladys Acosta Vargas, Nicole Ameline, Magalys Arocha Domínguez, Barbara Bailey, Náela Gabr, Hilary Gbedemah, Nahla Haidar, Yoko Hayashi, Lilian Hofmeister, Ismat Jahan, Dalia Leinarte, Lia Nadaraia, Theodora Oby Nwankwo, Pramila Patten, Silvia Pimentel, Biancamaria Pomeranzi, Patricia Schulz and Xiaoqiao

rules of procedure of the Committee. The text of the general recommendation is available through the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org/>) under the symbol number CEDAW/C/GC/33.

Working Group on rural women

The working group met during the session and further improved the draft general recommendation on rural women.

On 24 July 2015, the Committee completed its first reading of the draft general recommendation.

Working Group on gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction and climate change

The working group met during the session.

Working Group on the right to education

The working group met during the session and discussed a first draft of the general recommendation on girls' and women's right to education.

Working Group on working methods

The working group met during the session and considered and submitted to the Committee draft decisions concerning guidelines on reprisals and elements for the elaboration of and consultations on general recommendations (see decisions 61/2 to 61/3).

Working Group on the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The working group met during the session.

CEDAW-UN Women/SDG Working Group

The working group met during the session. The Committee decided to rename, extend the mandate and open the membership of the working group (see decision 61/6).

Working Group on violence against women

The Working Group met during the session and discussed an outline and the process for the elaboration of the draft general recommendation updating general recommendation No. 19 (1992) on violence against women.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the sixty-second session

On 24 July 2015, the Committee considered and approved the following provisional agenda for its sixty-second session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the sixty-first and sixty-second sessions of the Committee.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
5. Follow-up to concluding observations of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
6. Implementation of articles 21 and 22 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
7. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
8. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
9. Provisional agenda for the sixty-third session of the Committee.
10. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixty-second session.

Chapter IX

A. Adoption of the report

The Committee considered the draft report on its sixty-first session and addenda on 24 July 2015 and adopted it as orally revised during the discussion.

[Annexes will be added to the final version of the text]

B. Composition of the working groups of the Committee

[To be added to the final version of the report]

Annexes

Annex 1

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 thirty-second 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 thirty-second session from 30 June to 3 July 2015 in Geneva. Five members attended the session (Niklas Bruun, Nahla Haidar, Daila Leinarte, Pramila Patten and Gladys Acosta Vargas). Mr. Bruun was elected as Chair and Ms. Patten as Vice-Chair of the Working Group.
2. At the beginning of the session, the Working Group adopted its agenda.
3. The Working Group reviewed unregistered correspondence. It took note of the action taken by the secretariat in this regard, and decided on a number of requests for clarifications and/or explanations or replies to be sent to the authors of such correspondence.
4. The Working Group decided to register two new communications, No. 91/2015 concerning the Russian Federation and No. 92/2015 concerning Turkey, and to appoint the respective case rapporteurs.
5. The Working Group re-appointed case rapporteurs for all pending communications. Out of 92 communications concerning 28 States parties registered since 2003, 44 are pending. In 17 cases, the Committee found violations and in one case no violation. 23 communications were declared inadmissible and seven were discontinued.
6. The Working Group discussed four draft recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 24/2009 concerning Georgia, 45/2012 concerning Kazakhstan, 50/2013 concerning Denmark and 52/2013 concerning the Netherlands. All four recommendations were adopted by consensus and will be referred to the Committee for adoption.
7. The Working Group expressed concern at the increased number of cases ready for decision, including cases where a request by the State party concerned to consider the admissibility of the communication separately from the merits had been granted. At present, twelve cases are ready for adoption.
8. For its thirty-third session, the Working Group requested the secretariat to prepare, on a priority basis, draft recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 53/2013, 55/2013, 56/2013 and, if possible, No. 58/2013.
9. The Working Group discussed the status of 10 cases in which the follow-up dialogue with the States parties concerned remained on-going, and agreed on the action to be taken:
 - a) No. 17/2008 concerning Brazil (case rapporteurs Ms. Acosta Vargas/Ms. Patten);
 - b) No. 19/2008 concerning Canada (case rapporteurs Mr. Bruun/Ms. Haidar);

- c) No. 20/2008 concerning Bulgaria (case rapporteurs Ms. Leinarte/Mr. Bruun);
- d) No. 22/2009 concerning Peru (case rapporteurs Ms. Patten/Ms. Leinarte);
- e) No. 31/2011 concerning Bulgaria (case rapporteurs Ms. Leinarte/Mr. Bruun);
- f) No. 32/2011 concerning Bulgaria (case rapporteurs Ms. Leinarte/Mr. Bruun);
- g) No. 34/2011 concerning the Philippines (case rapporteur Ms. Patten);
- h) No. 36/2012 concerning the Netherlands (case rapporteur Mr. Bruun);
- i) No. 47/2012 concerning Spain (case rapporteur Ms. Acosta Vargas);
- j) In relation to case No. 28/2010 concerning Turkey, the Working Group decided to recommend that the Committee suspend the follow-up dialogue and find a partly satisfactory implementation of its recommendations.

10. The Working Group decided to request informal meetings during the Committee's sixty-first session with representatives of the Permanent Missions of Canada and Peru to the United Nations Office at Geneva, and during the sixty-second session with representatives of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines, to discuss follow-up matters.

Action taken at the present session:

11. The Working Group decided:

- (a) To register two new communications (No. 91/2015 concerning the Russian Federation and No. 92/2015 concerning Turkey) and to appoint the respective case rapporteurs;
- (b) To refer for adoption to the Committee four recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 24/2009 concerning Georgia (views, violation), 45/2012 concerning Kazakhstan (views, violation), 50/2013 concerning Denmark (decision, inadmissibility), and 52/2013 concerning the Netherlands (decision, inadmissibility), by consensus;
- (c) To request the secretariat to prepare draft recommendations in relation to communications Nos. 53/2013, 55/2013, 56/2013 and, if possible, No. 58/2013, and to make available on the extranet the scanned submissions of the parties to the proceedings in these cases;
- (d) To put the follow-up dialogue to a close in relation to case No. 28/2010 against Turkey, with a finding of a partly satisfactory implementation of the Committee's recommendations;
- (e) To request the Secretariat to arrange meetings during the Committee's sixty-first session with representatives of the Permanent Missions of Canada and Peru to the United Nations Office at Geneva, and during the sixty-second with representatives of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines, to discuss follow-up to the Committee's views on individual communications concerning those States parties.

12. The Working Group decided to hold its thirty-third session from 20 to 23 October 2015 in Geneva.

Annex 2

Report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on its first session

1. The Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women held its first session from 1 to 3 July 2015 in Geneva. Four members attended the session (Hilary Gbedemah, Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, Ismat Jahan and Lia Nadaraia). Barbara Bailey was not able to attend the session. Ms. Halperin-Kaddari was elected Chair of the Working Group until 31 December 2015.
2. At the beginning of the session, the Working Group adopted its agenda.
3. The Working Group revised the standard operating procedures for inquiries in order to adapt them to the mandate of the Working Group and reflect the recent practice of the Committee in examining information received under article 8 of the Optional Protocol.
4. During the session, the Working Group discussed modalities for the designation of members to conduct inquiries.
5. The Working Group also discussed criteria for requesting observations from States parties and for conducting an inquiry.
6. The Working Group discussed the status of all pending inquiry proceedings and adopted recommendations for action to be taken by the Committee.
7. For its second session, the Working Group requested the secretariat to prepare a draft check list for conducting a State visit.

Action taken at the first session

8. The Working Group decided:
 - (a) To refer for approval to the Committee the revised version of the standard operating procedures for inquiries taking into account the mandate of the Working Group and reflecting the recent practice of the Committee in examining information received under article 8 of the Optional Protocol;
 - (b) To postpone to the second session of the Working Group on Inquiries the development of criteria for requesting observations from States parties and for conducting an inquiry;
 - (c) To refer for adoption to the Committee the following recommendations in relation to pending inquiry proceedings:
 - (i) In relation to inquiry 2010/1 concerning the Philippines, to raise questions on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in the list of issues and questions to be established by the pre-sessional working group for the sixty-fourth session of the Committee;
 - (ii) In relation to inquiry 2011/1 concerning Canada, to start a follow-up process;

(iii) In relation to submission No. 2011/2, to conduct an inquiry and to transmit its decision to the State party concerned;

(iv) In relation to submission No. 2011/4, to request the State party concerned to submit, within two months, observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 of the Optional Protocol;

(v) In relation to submission No. 2013/2, not to conduct an inquiry.

(d) To inform the Committee of the following decisions taken by the Working Group:

(i) In relation to submission No. 2011/3, to defer to the second session of the working group its consideration as to whether or not to recommend to the Committee to conduct an inquiry;

(ii) In relation to submission No. 2012/1, to send a reminder to the source of information asking it to provide additional information;

(iii) In relation to submissions Nos. 2014/2 and 2014/3, to arrange meetings during the Committee's sixty-first session with representatives of the Permanent Missions of the States parties concerned to the United Nations Office at Geneva to follow up on the Committee's request for observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 of the Optional Protocol.

9. The Working Group decided to hold its second session from 21 to 23 October 2015 in Geneva.
