



**IDA's Compilation of Disability
Related Extracts of Concluding
Observations of the Committee on
the Elimination of Discrimination
Against Women**

**CEDAW Committee's 80th session
(18 October -12 November 2021)**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women – 80th session – 2021

Total Number of Concluding Observations	10
Number of countries receiving recommendations on persons with disabilities	10
Percentage of countries receiving recommendations on persons with disabilities	100
Number of recommendations including explicit references to disability	67

ECUADOR - CEDAW/C/ECU/CO/10

EGYPT - CEDAW/C/EGY/CO/8-10

INDONESIA - CEDAW/C/IDN/CO/8

MALDIVES - CEDAW/C/MDV/CO/6

KYRGYZSTAN - CEDAW/C/KGZ/CO/5

RUSSIAN FEDERATION - CEDAW/C/RUS/CO/9

SOUTH SUDAN - CEDAW/C/SSD/CO/1

SOUTH AFRICA - CEDAW/C/ZAF/CO/5

SWEDEN - CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/10

YEMEN - CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/7-8

Official versions of Concluding Observation are available on the website devoted to the session [here](#).

General context

9. The Committee notes with concern that the financial and economic crisis triggered by low oil prices, appreciation of the United States dollar, increasing external financing costs and growing trade conflicts has been exacerbated by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Committee also notes with concern that the COVID-19 health crisis has triggered a deep recession, leading to increased poverty, and has revealed structural weaknesses, such as a lack of macroeconomic buffers, a high level of informal employment, a poorly prepared health-care system and large gaps in access to public services. The Committee further notes with concern that the austerity measures adopted by the State party in an effort to consolidate public finances have had a disproportionate impact on women in all spheres of life. It is also concerned about the prevalence of gender-based violence against women, including domestic violence, and the feminization of poverty, which disproportionately affects women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups and those facing intersecting forms of discrimination. The Committee reminds the State party that, even in times of fiscal constraint and economic crisis, specific efforts must be made to advance women's rights, sustain and expand social investment and social protection and integrate a gender perspective into policies and programmes, focusing on disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women and seeking to avoid retrogressive measures.

10. In line with its guidance note on the obligations of States parties to the Convention in the context of COVID-19, issued on 22 April 2020, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Ensure the internal redistribution of its resources to overcome the consequences of the financial crisis, according priority to measures that support social inclusion and gender equality, and implement measures to redress pre-existing gender inequalities by placing women and girls at the centre of recovery strategies in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with particular attention to unemployed women and women living in poverty, women belonging to ethnic minorities, indigenous women, older women, women with disabilities, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, and lesbian, bisexual, transgender women and intersex persons;

Visibility of the Convention, the Optional Protocol thereto and the Committee's general recommendations

11. The Committee notes that, under article 417 of the Constitution, the Convention and other international human rights treaties are directly applicable in the courts. The Committee remains concerned, however, that the provisions of the Convention, the Optional Protocol thereto and the Committee's general recommendations are not sufficiently known in the State party, including by women themselves. The Committee also notes with concern the lack of references to the Convention in court decisions in the State party.

12. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Continue raising awareness among women about their rights under the Convention, targeting in particular women belonging to disadvantaged groups, including indigenous women, Ecuadorean women of African descent, Montubio women, migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women and women with disabilities;

Constitutional framework and definition of discrimination against women

13. The Committee commends the State party on its comprehensive legislative and policy framework for the elimination of discrimination against women. However, the Committee remains concerned about: (b) Intersecting forms of discrimination faced by indigenous, Ecuadorian women of African descent and Montubio women, women with disabilities, migrant women, women asylum seekers and refugee women, and the lack of disaggregated data on the situation of women.

14. In line with article 1 of the Convention and general recommendation No. 28 (2010) on the core obligations of States parties under article 2 of the Convention and reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/ECU/CO/8-9, para. 11), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Adopt specific targets and indicators aimed at addressing intersecting forms of discrimination against women.

Temporary special measures

17. The Committee welcomes the entry into force on 3 February 2020 of the Reform of the Organic Act on Elections and Political Organizations of the Republic of Ecuador (Democracy Code), which provides for temporary special measures. However, the Committee is concerned that, despite favourable legal conditions, there are still barriers related to the composition of lists, the definition of constituencies, the method of seat allocation and the absence of a parity rule in single-person candidacies. It also reiterates its concern about the absence of temporary special measures in the State party's public policy aimed at reducing the multiple and intersectional discrimination faced by women belonging to disadvantaged groups, such as indigenous, Ecuadorian women of African descent and Montubio women, migrant women, women with disabilities and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, in areas such as political participation, education, employment and health

18. In line with its general recommendation No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) In consultation with women from the most disadvantaged groups, define and implement temporary special measures aimed at reducing discrimination against them in order to accelerate de facto equality between men and women.

Gender-based violence against women

21. The Committee notes that different forms of gender-based violence are recognized in the Comprehensive Organic Act to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, including physical, psychological, sexual, economic, patrimonial, symbolic, political, gynaecological-obstetric and online violence. It further notes that the Act establishes a comprehensive national system to prevent and eradicate violence against women, which provides guidance to State institutions in the elaboration of policies for the prevention and eradication of all types of gender-based violence against women. However, the Committee notes with concern the findings of the 2019 State-led survey on gender-based violence against women, revealing that 65 per cent of women in the State party had experienced such violence at some time and that 32 per cent of them had experienced such violence during the past 12 months. It also notes with concern the high rate of early pregnancies, often resulting from rape. The Committee further notes with concern

(f) The lack of disaggregated data on gender-based violence against women and girls, in particular with respect to women belonging to ethnic minorities, indigenous women, women with disabilities and migrant and asylum-seeking women

22. Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(f) Ensure the systematic collection of data, disaggregated by age, nationality, disability and the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, on the extent of gender-based violence against women and girls in the State party

Participation in political and public life

25. The Committee notes the adoption of the reform of the Democracy Code in 2020, as a result of which 50 per cent of candidates on electoral lists of political parties will be required to be women by the 2025 elections. However, it notes with concern:

(d) The very low rate of participation of women belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups in political and public life.

26. Recalling its general recommendation No. 23 (1997) on women in political and public life, as well as target 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(c) Provide capacity-building on political campaigning and leadership skills and ensure that women candidates have access to sufficient campaign financing. In doing so, the State party should pay particular attention to underrepresented groups of women, such as indigenous women, women with disabilities and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women

Education

27. The Committee welcomes the efforts of the State party to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and gender-based stereotyping in the education system, including through awareness-raising campaigns targeting young people, including girls and young women, on harassment in educational settings. It also welcomes the adoption of Executive Decree No. 460 of 19 July 2018, which provides for the inclusion of equality of women and men in school curricula and textbooks. The Committee, however, notes with concern:

(f) The lack of data, disaggregated by sex and type of disability, on children with disabilities, including girls, who complete school, vocational training and university education.

28. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, as well as target 4.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(c) Continue to improve the accessibility and quality of education for all children, in particular disadvantaged and marginalized groups of girls, and address the disproportionately high rates of illiteracy among migrant girls, girls with disabilities and girls living in rural and remote areas and those living in poverty;

(h) Strengthen the inclusion of girls with disabilities in the mainstream education system and include in its next periodic report information and statistical data, disaggregated by age and type of disability, on school attendance, dropout rates and access to vocational and university education for girls with disabilities.

Employment

31. The Committee notes that the State party ratified the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization, in 2013. It welcomes the adoption of the National Equality Agenda for Women and LGBTI Persons, 2018–2021, which calls for the redistribution of care work, and article 18 of the 2017 Organic Act on Labour Justice and Recognition of Work in the Home, which establishes penalties for dismissal on discriminatory grounds. It further notes the 2021 court ruling against Furukawa Plantaciones, which was found guilty of modern slavery, and the State party's commitment to ensuring that former workers have access to reparation and to implementing a national action plan on business and human rights. However, the Committee notes with concern:

(g) The persistently low labour market participation rate of migrant women, women belonging to ethnic minority groups, indigenous women and women with disabilities.

32. Recalling its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/ECU/CO/8-9, para. 31), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(d) Strengthen measures to eliminate occupational segregation, enhance access by women, including migrant women, Ecuadorian women of African descent, Montubio women, women belonging to ethnic minority groups, indigenous women and women with disabilities, to formal employment, and encourage women and girls to choose non-traditional career paths;

(h) Collect comprehensive data on the participation of migrant women, women belonging to ethnic minority groups, women in autonomous territories, indigenous women and women with disabilities in the labour market and include such information in the next periodic report.

Health

33. The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Organic Health Code, which guarantees universal access to comprehensive health care at any time. It also commends the State party on the adoption of the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan, 2017–2021, and its Intersectoral Policy for the Prevention of Pregnancy in Girls and Adolescents, 2018–2025. The Committee further notes that, on 28 April 2021, the Constitutional Court ruled to decriminalize abortion in cases of rape. However, the Committee notes with concern:

(c) That women and girls with disabilities and belonging to minority groups and indigenous, migrant and asylum-seeking women and girls sometimes encounter difficulties in accessing sexual and reproductive health services and information.

34. In line with its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health and reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/ECU/CO/8-9, para. 33), the Committee recommends that the State party (c) Ensure that women and girls without sufficient means, including those belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, have free-of-charge access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health services.

Women with disabilities

43. The Committee notes with concern the lack of information on the situation of women with disabilities.

44. In line with its general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on disabled women, the Committee recommends that the State party: CEDAW/C/ECU/CO/10 21-17277 15/17

(a) Address intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities and ensure their inclusion by eliminating restrictions on their legal

capacity, ensuring their access to justice, protection from gender-based violence, inclusive education, employment and health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, and by addressing their specific needs;

(b) Ensure that women and girls with disabilities have access to the labour market and to support services available to victims of gender-based violence, and ensure their rights to freedom of movement and freely to choose their spouse or partner

EGYPT - CEDAW/C/EGY/CO/8-10

Gender-based violence against women

23. The Committee notes the efforts by the State party to combat gender-based violence against women, including the amending of the Penal Code in 2014 to introduce penalties for sexual harassment and the adoption of several policies, such as the National Strategy to Reduce Early Marriage for 2015–2020, the National Strategy to Counter Female Genital Mutilation for 2016–2020 and the National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women and Girls for 2015–2020. However, the Committee is concerned about: (f) The insufficient number and capacity of shelters and support services for victims of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, such as psychosocial counselling, legal assistance and rehabilitation programmes, particularly for women in rural and remote areas and disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women;

24. Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(f) Allocate sufficient resources to expand and increase the number of State-run shelters for women victims of gender-based violence and ensure that such victims receive counselling, rehabilitation and support services for their reintegration into society, particularly those belonging to disadvantaged groups of women, such as women in rural and remote areas, asylum-seeking and refugee women, women with disabilities, migrant women and women domestic workers.

Education

33. The Committee notes with appreciation the increase in the enrolment rates for women and girls at all levels of education, the setting of the minimum spending on education at 4 per cent of the gross domestic product in line with article 19 of the Constitution, as well as the adoption of the Strategic Plan for the Development of Pre-University Education to provide equal access to education for all residents of school age, particularly in poor areas, and to improve the quality of educational services. It also notes that Ministerial Decrees Nos. 43 and 44 of April 2021 repealed the restriction prohibiting women from performing night work and working in certain occupations. However, the Committee remains concerned that: (a) Illiteracy, including digital illiteracy, and dropout rates are higher among women and girls, particularly in rural and remote areas and among women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups;

34. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Intensify its efforts to address illiteracy and dropout rates among women and girls, particularly in rural and remote areas and among women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including women and girls with disabilities,

while conducting systematic impact assessments of its strategies and policies to ensure their effectiveness;

Employment

35. The Committee notes the efforts by the State party to promote employment opportunities for women. However, the Committee remains concerned about: (c) The lack of information on the implementation of Act No. 39 of 1975 on the 5 per cent quota for women with disabilities.

36. Recalling its previous recommendation (CEDAW/C/EGY/CO/7, para. 34) and in line with its general recommendation No. 13 (1989) on equal remuneration for work of equal value and with target 8.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Intensify its efforts to eliminate horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and to enhance the access of women, including women with disabilities, to the formal labour market, and its efforts to increase their representation in decision-making positions, particularly in the private sector;

Health

39. The Committee notes the measures adopted to improve the health-care services for women and girls, particularly maternal health care and family planning and the adoption of the Comprehensive Health Insurance System Act and the National Strategy for the Protection of Childhood and Motherhood. The Committee is nevertheless concerned:

(d) That women and girls with disabilities face obstacles in obtaining access to health-care services and that there is a lack of accessibility and reasonable accommodation in the healthcare system;

(e) About inadequate mental health services for women, including addiction treatments

40. In line with its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Increase the budget allocated to health care and accelerate the implementation of the Comprehensive Health Insurance System Act to ensure the provision of accessible and affordable health-care services to all women and girls, particularly for women in rural and remote areas and those belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups;

(c) Adopt measures to ensure the availability and quality of accessible mental health-care services as well addiction treatments;

Disadvantaged groups of women

45. The Committee is concerned about reports that women with disabilities, women refugees, asylum-seeking women and women migrant workers continue to experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

46. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) With regard to women with disabilities:

(i) Ensure the access of women and girls with disabilities to inclusive education, employment, justice, public services and adequate health care, as well as ensuring their access to the physical environment, to transportation and to information and communications

Education

39. The Committee notes with appreciation the State party's efforts to enhance access to education, including for students with disabilities under Law No. 8/2016 on persons with disabilities and Ministry of Education and Culture Regulation No. 70/2009 on inclusive education. It further welcomes the State party's efforts to collect data on gender-based violence against women and girls in educational settings by establishing an online system for reporting incidents. The Committee nevertheless remains concerned about:

(a) The lack of data, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, location and socioeconomic status, to assess the impact of these measures

(b) The disparities in access to education, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, for women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups;

40. The Committee recommends that the State party raise awareness of the importance of girls' education at all levels as a basis for their empowerment, and:

(a) Systematically collect data, disaggregated by age, disability, location and socioeconomic status, on the State party's efforts to increase girls' and women's access to education;

(b) Facilitate access by women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups to education, including by providing financial support and by building capacity among educational staff to create safer and more inclusive learning environments for them;

Employment

41. The Committee welcomes the adoption of Law No. 18/2017 on protection of migrant workers, which contains empowerment and protection mechanisms for migrant workers and their families. It also takes note that Law No. 11/2020 on job creation does not change or revoke the rights of women workers afforded under Law No. 13/2003 on manpower. However, the Committee notes with concern:

(f) The absence of clear and up-to-date information on women with disabilities in the workforce, and the significant challenges faced by women with disabilities, as well as the particular issues facing women with leprosy when accessing meaningful and sustainable employment;

42. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(g) Enforce public and private sector awareness-raising and training activities relating to disabilities, increase support mechanisms to ensure that women with disabilities find sustainable and meaningful employment, and publish current and detailed statistics on women with disabilities in the workforce;

Health

43. The Committee commends the State party for its efforts to expand access to sexual and reproductive health services in rural areas and to reduce maternal and infant mortality, including the President's HeforShe IMPACT Champion Initiative. However, it notes with concern:

(a) The limited access to and gender-based violence and discrimination in the health-care system faced by women in rural areas, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities, women in prisons and women using drugs;

(e) The shackling or detention of persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, including women and girls, or their forced placement in psychiatric facilities, and their

subjection to physical examinations, medical treatment and medication procedures without their free, prior and informed consent

44. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Eliminate discrimination, violence and stigma against women in rural areas, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities, women in detention and women using drugs, and ensure that they have access to adequate health services, including sexual and reproductive health services and HIV and drug treatment;

(e) Abolish the deprivation of liberty of women and girls with disabilities based on actual or perceived intellectual or psychosocial impairment, and any examinations or treatment without their free and informed consent, and investigate, prosecute and punish cases of chaining and detention in private homes and forced placement and treatment in psychiatric facilities.

MALDIVES - CEDAW/C/MDV/CO/6

Gender-based violence against women

27. The Committee welcomes the establishment of five shelters for victims of domestic violence in the State party. It also appreciates information provided by the delegation of the State party on the launch in 2020 of a national campaign to raise awareness about gender-based violence and domestic violence, with a special focus on engaging men. The Committee welcomes the statement made by the delegation during the dialogue indicating that a nationwide survey to analyse the prevalence of domestic violence in the State party is scheduled to commence in 2022. The Committee notes the renewed commitment of the State party to criminalize female genital mutilation. While noting the State party's efforts to combat gender-based violence against women, the Committee notes with great concern that:(e) Discriminatory gender stereotypes among police officers, gender insensitive investigation methods, lack of protection for women who report rape, fear of revictimization and retaliation, women's underrepresentation in frontline policing and in the judiciary, a lack of lawyers (particularly in the smaller islands), and the fact that legal aid is available to victims only in relation to "major criminal offences" constitute barriers to women's access to justice;

28. The Committee urges the State party to:

(h) Extend the National Campaign to raise awareness on gender-based violence and domestic violence; include awareness of online gender-based violence; and collect and publish statistical data on all forms of sexual violence, including marital rape, disaggregating the data by the victims' sex, the victim's age, the relationship between the victims and the perpetrator, and in relation to intersecting forms of discrimination against women and other relevant sociodemographic characteristics, such as disability and nationality;

Disadvantaged groups of women

51. The Committee expresses its concern at the lack of policies in the State Party to combat the discrimination faced by disadvantaged groups of women due to the intersection with other factors leading to social exclusion, such as ethnicity, religion, nationality, disability, migrant status or membership in the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.

52. The Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Adopt all necessary measures, including temporary special measures, to combat the intersectional discrimination that disadvantaged groups of women encounter, such as migrant women, women with disabilities, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, and women professing religions other than Islam, in relation to all aspects covered by the Convention;

Health

45. The Committee notes with concern that, according to the 2016–2017 Maldives Demographic and Health Survey, 72 per cent of women reported having at least one problem in accessing health care, with 52 per cent citing difficulties in getting an appointment and 31 per cent referring to the distance to health-care facilities, and that emergency obstetrics services are only available at secondary hospitals and their limited availability prompts patients to incur costs travelling to the capital city. In particular, the Committee is further concerned about the restricted access, in practice, to sexual and reproductive health services for unmarried women and girls, despite the National Family Planning Guidelines providing for the right to receive services irrespective of marital status, and the absence of information on the prevalence of unsafe and illegal abortions. The Committee is further concerned about the relatively high rate of caesarean births due to limited access to obstetrics services

46. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(f) Ensure that women with disabilities have access to health care by ensuring the accessibility of sexual and reproductive health services, including by providing accessible mammography machines and hydraulic gynaecological examination beds

KYRGYZSTAN - CEDAW/C/KGZ/CO/5

Temporary special measures

17. The Committee notes the legislative provisions that no more than 70 per cent of candidates or members should be of the same sex, in the Zhogorku Kenesh, political parties, local councils and the courts, and the 30 per cent quota for women's representation in local councils. However, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of understanding in the State party of the non-discriminatory nature of temporary special measures, their limited use in most areas of the Convention in which women are underrepresented or disadvantaged, and their limited impact on achieving substantive equality between women and men.

18. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/KGZ/CO/4, para. 14) and recommends that the State party:

(b) Adopt temporary special measures, in accordance with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures, as a necessary strategy to accelerate the achievement of substantive equality between women and men in all areas of the Convention in which women are underrepresented or disadvantaged, in both the public and private sectors, especially at the decision-making level, and with particular attention to women belonging to ethnic minority groups, women with disabilities and older women

Gender-based violence against women and harmful practices

21. The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Act on Protection and Defence against Domestic Violence (Act No. 63 of 27 April 2017) and the introduction of more severe penalties for bride kidnapping of women and girls for the purposes of child marriage and forced marriage. However, the Committee remains concerned about the high incidence of gender-based violence against women in the State party, including the spike in domestic violence during the lockdown in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and the persistence of the harmful practice of bride kidnapping.

22. Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Review the Act on Protection and Defence against Domestic Violence to ensure that it covers all forms of gender-based violence and takes into account the special needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women, including women with disabilities, migrant women, women living with HIV/AIDS, women using drugs and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women;

Employment

33. The Committee commends the State party for undertaking a review of the list of restricted professions for women. However, it remains concerned about:

(f) The limited access to decent employment for disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women, including women belonging to ethnic minorities, migrant women and women with disabilities.

34. Recalling its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/KGZ/CO/4, para. 28), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(h) Improve access to employment and training opportunities for disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women, such as women belonging to ethnic minorities, women with disabilities and migrant women, and provide predeparture training for women who migrate

Disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women

41. The Committee is concerned that older women, **women with disabilities**, women belonging to ethnic minority groups, refugee and asylum-seeking women, migrant women, women living with HIV/AIDS, women using drugs and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women continue to face intersecting forms of discrimination in the State party.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt targeted measures to ensure access to justice, employment, health care, including sexual and reproductive health services respecting the confidentiality of patient information, social protection and food security for disadvantaged groups of women, taking into account their specific needs.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION - CEDAW/C/RUS/CO/9

Women's access to justice

12. The Committee notes the information on the legal safeguards in the national legal framework. Nevertheless, the Committee notes with concern:

(a) The lack of information on the number of court cases on discrimination against women and the low number of complaints from women received by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation (around 400 in 2018);

(b) The barriers faced by women in gaining access to justice such as judicial bias and discriminatory stereotypes among judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials and lawyers towards women reporting violations of their rights, particularly women belonging to disadvantaged groups, especially in rural areas.

13. Recalling its general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Develop a comprehensive legal aid scheme for women at the federal and regional levels, with sustainable and sufficient resources, including procedural accommodation, particularly targeting rural women and women belonging to disadvantaged groups such as indigenous and tribal women, women belonging to minority groups, women in detention, journalists and women with disabilities;

Temporary special measures

20. The Committee notes with concern the limited understanding within the State party of the non-discriminatory nature and importance of temporary special measures for accelerating the achievement of substantive equality between women and men, including statutory quotas, in the public or private sectors, in particular for rural women and women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination such as women with disabilities, women belonging to minority groups and indigenous and tribal women

21. The Committee recommends that, in line with article 4 (1) of the Convention and its general recommendation No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures, the State party:

(a) Adopt and implement temporary special measures and establish timebound targets to accelerate the realization of substantive equality between women and men in all areas in which women continue to be disadvantaged or underrepresented, including in political and public life and employment;

Education

36. The Committee notes with appreciation the high number of women in higher education and research institutions, and the initiatives to promote women's and girls' participation in non-traditional fields of study and career paths, in particular in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and information and communications technology. The Committee nevertheless notes with concern:

(a) Reports about segregation and discrimination in access to education against Roma, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls;

(b) The lack of comprehensive age-appropriate sexuality education at school;

(c) The persistence of discriminatory gender stereotypes in school curricula and textbooks and the lack of education on gender equality;

(d) The lack of effective measures to ensure the protection of women and girls from gender-based violence, harassment and bullying in schools and universities and the lack of effective complaint and redress mechanisms

37. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, the Committee recommends that the State party: (a) Ensure that girls and women belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, such as girls and women with disabilities and Roma, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking girls and women, have access to inclusive education.

Health

40. The Committee notes the information on the launch in 2019 of the National Health-care Project, which aims at reducing maternal and infant mortality, addressing staff shortages in health-care facilities and improving women's access to health-care services. However, the Committee notes with concern

(c) That rural women, migrant women, refugee and asylum-seeking women and women in detention face barriers to access to basic health care, and on reports that women with disabilities, particularly women with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, are subjected to forced sterilization

41. Recalling its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health and target 3.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen measures to ensure the availability, accessibility and affordability of modern contraceptives to all women and girls, including those belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups and in rural areas, and to prevent the forced sterilization of women and girls with disabilities and require their free and informed consent prior to any medical intervention;

(b) Adopt measures to combat and eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination against and stigmatization of women living with HIV/AIDS, women using drugs, women in detention and women with disabilities in health care and ensure that they have access to adequate health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, antiretroviral treatment and drug treatment;

Disadvantaged groups of women

48. The Committee is concerned about the prevalence of violence against women in centres for persons with disabilities and psychiatric hospitals.

49. The Committee recommends that the State Party ensure that all institutions such as centres for persons with disabilities and psychiatric hospitals are effectively monitored by independent authorities.

52. The Committee is concerned at the absence of a suitable legal framework that ensures equality before the law and justice for women and girls with disabilities. The Committee is also concerned at the prevalence of the welfare model and the lack of consideration of women and girls with disabilities in public policies.

53. The Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Amend its legal framework, and in particular the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure, to ensure the legal capacity of women with disabilities;

(b) Step up its efforts to ensure that women with disabilities who are victims of human rights violations can access justice effectively;

(c) Adopt human rights-based positive action measures aimed at women with disabilities, in consultation with organizations of women with disabilities;

(d) Promote the development of independent living for women with disabilities while ensuring community-based personal assistance services

SOUTH SUDAN - CEDAW/C/SSD/CO/1

Temporary special measures

20. The Committee notes that the State party applies various temporary special measures to accelerate the representation of women in national governance structures and ensure their access to basic services. The Committee regrets, however,

the lack of a clear strategy for the implementation of such measures targeting, in particular, disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women and girls, particularly those affected by conflict, women with disabilities and rural women and girls

21. The Committee recommends that the State party, in line with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures:

(b) Undertake capacity-building programmes, targeting all relevant State officials, those in charge of dispensing public services and employers, on the non-discriminatory nature and importance of temporary special measures for achieving substantive equality between women and men in all areas in which women are underrepresented or disadvantaged.

Women's access to justice

28. The Committee notes with concern the lack of human, technical and financial resources allocated to the formal justice sector and to human rights and law enforcement agencies necessary to provide basic protection from and accountability for violations of women's rights at both the national and subnational levels. It also notes with concern reports that women are often discouraged by police from filing complaints, particularly against relatives, encounter due process violations in court hearings and are not afforded protection measures, including for witnesses. The Committee is particularly concerned about reports of gender bias within traditional justice mechanisms in the resolution of disputes, including for serious criminal offences, and that women or girls who are victims of sexual violence are frequently required to marry the rapist.

29. Recalling its general recommendation No. 33 (2015), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources to the formal justice sector, in particular in rural and remote areas, to enable a gender-based response with accessibility measures to encourage women to claim their rights, including through the provision of legal aid to women without sufficient means and procedural accommodations for women with disabilities and the recruitment of women judges, prosecutors, police officers and social workers;

Education

36. The Committee is alarmed by reports of attacks and occupation of schools by military and armed groups, noting that one third of all schools have been damaged, destroyed, occupied or closed since 2013, and that an estimated 3 million school-aged children in South Sudan were out of school in 2020, representing the highest proportion globally. It notes with concern that the extremely low literacy rate of women in the State party is exacerbated by girls' non-completion of schooling due to child marriage, early pregnancy, the unaffordability and unavailability of hygiene products, the unavailability of separate sanitary facilities, poverty, and sexual violence and harassment in and on the way to and from school, as well as parents' prioritization of education for sons.

37. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, the Committee recommends that the State party promote the importance of girls' education at all levels as a basis for their empowerment, and:

(b) Address the high illiteracy rate among women and girls in the State party, with a focus on girls living in poverty, rural girls, pregnant girls and young mothers, and girls with disabilities, through temporary special measures with time-bound targets to

increase girls' enrolment, retention and completion rates in secondary education, and strengthen continuing education for women;

Health

40. The Committee is concerned about the persistently high rate of maternal mortality, owing to malnutrition and limited access to sexual and reproductive health services, including safe abortion and post-abortion services, emergency obstetric services and skilled birth attendance for women; the persistently high rate of early pregnancy, its link to child marriage and the predominance of fistula; and the lack of adequately trained health professionals, including midwives, in rural areas. It is also concerned about the disproportionately high rates of HIV/AIDS among women in the State party and women's limited access to appropriate and adequate treatment.

41. Recalling its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health, and targets 3.1 and 3.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio and ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, respectively, the Committee recommends that the State party increase the proportion of the national budget allocated to health and:

(a) Address the high maternal mortality rates throughout the State party, including by:

(iii) Ensuring the availability and accessibility of sexual and reproductive health services for adolescent girls and young women, including rural women and girls and those with disabilities, and ensuring adequate access to information about sexual and reproductive health and rights, including on the prevention of early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, as well as affordable or, if necessary, free access to modern forms of contraceptives;

Women with disabilities

46. The Committee notes with concern the prevalence of gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in the State party, including torture and inhuman treatment, shackling, sexual exploitation, murder with impunity and arbitrary detention on grounds of their disability. It also notes with concern that women and girls with disabilities have very limited access to information relating to their rights, access to justice and available services for women, particularly about sexual and reproductive health and protection from gender-based violence.

47. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Put an end to the arbitrary detention of women and girls with disabilities, including through the practice of shackling, and immediately release those who have been institutionalized or otherwise deprived of their liberty on grounds of their disability, ensuring full provision of redress and rehabilitation;

(b) Address intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities and ensure their inclusion and enjoyment of all rights under the Convention by eliminating restrictions on their legal capacity; ensuring their access to justice, protection from gender-based violence, and inclusive access to education, employment and health services, including with regard to sexual and reproductive rights; and accommodating their specific needs in line with the Committee's general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on disabled women;

(c) Expedite the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

SOUTH AFRICA - CEDAW/C/ZAF/CO/5

Gender-based violence against women

9. The Committee acknowledges the efforts to address gender-based violence against women and girls in the State party, including the adoption in 2020 of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. However, the Committee notes with concern the persistence of systemic failures in the implementation of legislation and policies to address gender-based violence and of rampant levels of gender-based violence, including femicides, across the State party. In particular, the Committee notes with concern:

(d) The particularly high risk of gender-based violence against women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, such as lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, refugee women, women with disabilities and women and girls with albinism

10. The Committee urges the State party to:

(a) Raise awareness of women's human rights among traditional and community leaders and the general public, with the active participation of women's organizations and women human rights defenders, and on the specific risk of gender-based violence for women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, such as lesbian, bisexual and transgender women; migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women; women living with disabilities; and women and girls with albinism;

Women's access to justice

21. The Committee notes that Legal Aid South Africa has identified women, particularly in divorce, maintenance, and domestic violence proceedings, for prioritization in relation to the provision of free legal aid. However, it notes with concern that Legal Aid South Africa lacks the human, technical and financial resources necessary to deliver on its mandate. The Committee further notes with concern the barriers to women's access to justice, including victim support services in the State party, in particular in domestic violence cases. It also notes with concern the low prosecution and conviction rates in cases of sexual offences. It is further concerned about the persistence of discriminatory gender stereotypes in the justice system and the stigmatization of women complainants, in particular, those living in informal settlements, women migrant workers, rural women, women with disabilities and women with albinism

22. The Committee recommends that the State party:(c) Provide capacity-building to the judiciary, prosecutors, police officers and other law enforcement officers and court clerks on the strict application of the Domestic Violence Act and the Sexual Offences Act, gender-sensitive investigation and interrogation methods, proper case management and the collection and use of forensic evidence, and their role in protecting, encouraging and assisting victims in reporting cases of domestic violence against women;

23. The Committee notes that Equality Courts hear cases of discrimination, hate speech and harassment, including against women, and that the Commission for Gender Equality is mandated to provide assistance to women complainants in bringing cases to the Equality Courts. The Committee notes, however, that Equality Courts are concentrated in urban areas, which makes it difficult for rural women, in particular those without sufficient means to travel, to access justice and reparations. It further notes that many women are unaware of the Equality Courts as well as the lack of data on the number and outcome of cases brought before the Equality Courts.

24. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Raise awareness among women, including women belonging to ethnic minorities, women with disabilities, migrant women, and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, about the legal remedies available to them in the event of discrimination;

National machinery for the advancement of women

27. The Committee welcomes the establishment in 2019 of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities within the presidency. However, it notes the limited capacity and human, technical and financial resources of the Department, as well as the insufficient number of gender focal points at various governmental and institutional levels. The Committee is further concerned about the lack of coordination and collaboration among the various mechanisms of the national machinery and the limited participation of civil society and women's and youth organizations as equal partners in the process of strengthening the capacity of the national machinery.

28. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources to the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities;

Equal participation in political and public life

39. The Committee welcomes the increase in the number of women elected to the National Assembly following the May 2019 elections (45 per cent). However, it notes with concern that women's representation in local government and in the judiciary remains low, and that no concrete measures have been taken to implement the 50/50 gender representation policy. The Committee also notes with concern that the Traditional and Khoisan Leadership Act (Act No. 3 of 2019) requires a quota of only 30 per cent for women's representation in the National House of Traditional Leaders. The Committee is further concerned about the very low participation in political and public life by women belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(c) Provide capacity-building in political leadership and campaigning skills and access to campaign financing for women candidates, including women with disabilities and women with albinism, and raise awareness among political leaders and the public about the fact that the full, equal, free and democratic participation of women in political and public life on an equal basis with men is required for the full implementation of the Convention;

45. The Committee notes with concern that girls, in particular girls with disabilities, continue to face gender-based violence and discrimination in the school environment and unsafe transportation to and from schools. It is also concerned about the high risk of sexual harassment, abuse and exploitation in educational settings despite the adoption of the Protocol for the Management and Reporting of Sexual Abuse and Harassment in Schools in 2018. The Committee is further concerned about the lack of awareness-raising campaigns in schools to eliminate discriminatory stereotypes and gender-based violence.

46. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure safe educational environments that are free from gender-based violence and discrimination and ensure safe transportation to and from schools for all girls;

(b) Address cases of sexual harassment, abuse and exploitation of girls and women in educational institutions through confidential and independent reporting mechanisms and adequate sanctions and provide appropriate support services to victims;

(c) Include in school curricula education on women's rights, gender equality and the role of men and boys in preventing sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices and ensure capacity-building for teachers in these aspects.

Health

53. The Committee notes the statement made by the delegation during the dialogue indicating that the decision to suspend "non-essential" health services during the COVID-19 pandemic, mainly sexual and reproductive health services and HIV/AIDS treatment, has been lifted with immediate effect. It also notes the statement made by the delegation indicating that mobile health units ensure access to health care for women in rural areas. However, the Committee remains concerned about women's limited access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health services, in particular in rural areas, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. It notes with concern the high number of early pregnancies, and women's and girls' limited access to information on sexual and reproductive rights, modern forms of contraception and safe abortion services. The Committee notes with concern reports of forced sterilization of women living with HIV/AIDS in public health facilities and discrimination against women with disabilities, women with albinism, women in prostitution and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women seeking to access sexual and reproductive health services, and particularly safe abortion

54. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(d) Ensure that women with disabilities, women with albinism, women exploited in prostitution and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women have affordable access to sexual and reproductive health services, including safe abortion and post-abortion services, free from gender-based violence, discrimination, or harassment.

Disadvantaged groups of women

59. The Committee notes with concern information received on the situation of women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, including lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities and women with albinism, and the lack of data on measures taken by the State party to comply with its due diligence obligation to prevent and protect these women from gender-based violence

60. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Provide information in its next periodic report on the situation of women facing intersecting forms of discrimination, including lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities and women with albinism, and on measures taken to address such discrimination.

SWEDEN - CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/10

General context

9. The Committee commends the State party for its advanced social model, characterized by social redistribution, high unemployment benefits and a large public sector. Noting that it is combined with a competitive economy and a dependable welfare system, as well as low unemployment and poverty rates, the Committee considers the Swedish social model a strong basis for gender-responsive coronavirus disease (COVID-19) responses and recovery strategies, including under the

NextGenerationEU recovery plan. However, the Committee is concerned about the prevalence of gender-based violence against women, including domestic violence, and the feminization of poverty, disproportionately affecting women and girls belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups and facing intersecting forms of discrimination, across the territory of the State party

10. In line with its guidance note on the obligations of States parties to the Convention in the context of COVID-19, issued on 22 April 2020, the Committee recommends that the State party:

a) Consolidate the Swedish social model throughout the State party as a driving force for sustainable change and use it as a catalyst for implementing measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic to redress pre-existing gender inequalities by placing women and girls at the centre of recovery strategies in line with the 2030 Agenda, paying particular attention to unemployed women and women living in poverty, women belonging to ethnic or national minorities, Sami women, older women, women with disabilities, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons

Visibility of the Convention, the Optional Protocol thereto and the Committee's general recommendations

11. The Committee remains concerned that the provisions of the Convention, the Optional Protocol thereto and the Committee's general recommendations are not sufficiently known in the State party, including by women themselves. The Committee also notes with concern the continued lack of references to the Convention in court decisions in the State party

12. Reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 13), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Continue raising awareness among women about their rights under the Convention and corresponding remedies, targeting in particular women belonging to disadvantaged groups, including Sami, Roma, migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women and women with disabilities;

Temporary special measures

19. The Committee remains concerned at the low number of women in leadership positions in academia, in senior management positions and on the boards of private companies. It notes with concern that the representation of women among new board of directors members is decreasing, with only 9 per cent of chief executive officer positions held by women, and that only 25 per cent of senior management positions were held by women in 2020.

20. The Committee also recommends that the State party implement temporary special measures to accelerate equal participation by women belonging to disadvantaged groups, such as migrant women, older women, women with disabilities, Sami women, Roma women, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons and refugee and asylum-seeking women.

Gender-based violence against women

23. The Committee welcomes the adoption, in 2016, of the 10-year national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women, its accompanying programme of measures for 2017–2020, and the forty-point package of measures presented in 2021 by the Government to intensify work on preventing and combating men's violence against women. It commends the State party on its law on sexual offences, of 2018,

which places lack of consent at the centre of the new definition of rape. The Committee notes that the State party also addresses new forms of gender-based violence against women, particularly in the online sphere. It further notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue that a permanent national and cross-sectoral competence centre against violence and oppression in the name of so-called honour is being established. The Committee nevertheless notes with concern:

(f) The overall lack of disaggregated data on gender-based violence against women and girls, in particular with respect to women belonging to ethnic or national minorities, women with disabilities and migrant women.

24. Reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 27), and recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen and fully implement the current strategy in place to combat gender-based violence, including sexual and domestic violence against women and girls, including women and girls with disabilities, by incorporating the knowledge and use of algorithms to prevent gender stereotyping and by linking the strategy to the prevention of suicide and substance abuse and to the action plan on parental neglect, with clear goals and mechanisms for prevention, monitoring and follow-up;

Equal participation in political and public life

27. The Committee notes that following the 2018 national, regional and municipal elections, 43 per cent of members elected to municipal councils were women. However, the Committee notes with concern that:

(a) Only 43 per cent of all municipal chief executive officers, 32 per cent of mayors and 29 per cent of regional chief executive officers are women;

(b) The Swedish Gender Equality Agency reported that women generally faced more barriers than men to participating in elected bodies and political parties;

(c) According to the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, women politicians often receive sexist comments, and that 32 per cent of women elected to the Riksdag and at regional and municipal levels stated that they had received threats and were the victims of harassment during the 2018 election year

28. Reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 31), and recalling its general recommendation No. 23 (1997) on women in political and public life, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Continue to take targeted measures to maintain its achievements in ensuring a high rate of representation of women in political and public life in the Riksdag and at the regional and municipal levels. The Committee also recommends that, in doing so, the State party pay particular attention to underrepresented groups of women, such as Sami women, Roma women, women with disabilities and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons, among others;

Education

31. The Committee welcomes the efforts of the State party to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and gender-stereotyping in the education system and the progress achieved so far, for example the awareness-raising campaigns targeting young people, including girls and young women, on harassment, such as online bullying, at school, and digital literacy campaigns, as well as awareness-raising on women's rights and gender equality. The Committee also welcomes the commitment

of the State party to continue modernizing its sexual and reproductive health curricula. It however notes with concern:

- (a) Persistent gender segregation in the education sector, including the low number of women and girls choosing non-traditional fields of study and career paths;
- (b) That the percentage of women in senior academic posts is only 31 per cent;
- (c) Reports of sexual harassment in schools, with 14 per cent of girls in secondary schools having experienced sexual harassment at school;
- (d) The lack of systematic training on sexual and reproductive health and rights for teachers at the secondary level of education;
- (e) The lack of data, disaggregated by sex and type of disability, on children, including girls, with disabilities who complete school, vocational and university education.

32. Reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 33), and recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, the Committee recommends that the State party continue raising awareness of the importance of girls' and women's education at all levels as a basis for their empowerment, and:

- (e) Strengthen its measures to improve the inclusion of girls with disabilities in the mainstream education system, and include in its next periodic report information and statistical data, disaggregated by sex and type of disability, on school attendance, dropout rates and access to vocational and university education by girls with disabilities**

Employment

33. The Committee commends the State party for the high level of participation of women in the labour force, and notes that in the Global Gender Gap Report 2021, published by the World Economic Forum, the State party was ranked eleventh out of 156 countries for women's economic participation and opportunities. The Committee further welcomes the 2017 amendment to the Discrimination Law that provides for a salary mapping, in the context of efforts towards gender-equal salaries, to be conducted on a yearly basis for companies with at least 10 employees. The Committee notes with concern:

- (d) The persistently low participation of migrant women, women belonging to minority groups, Sami women and women with disabilities in the labour market;

34. With reference to its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 35), the Committee recommends that the State party:

- (c) Strengthen measures to eliminate occupational segregation and enhance access by women, including migrant women, women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women and women with disabilities, to formal employment, encourage women and girls to select non-traditional career paths, and prioritize the transition of women from part-time to full-time work, including by providing a sufficient number of adequate and accessible childcare facilities;**
- (d) Collect comprehensive data on the participation of migrant women, women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women and women with disabilities in the labour market and include such information in the next periodic report;**

Health

35. The Committee welcomes the statement made by the delegation that the State party agrees on the need to increase the production of vaccines and to distribute them globally, and that Sweden is ready to work with partners, including in the World Trade Organization, to find solutions. It notes that State party considers that a temporary

waiver on certain provisions of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, as proposed by India and South Africa to the World Trade Organization, could undermine the current collaboration based on the Agreement and hamper incentives for research and innovation. The Committee also notes with concern that:

- (a) Work-related illness and use of sick leave is higher among women than men, especially as regards sick leave for mental illnesses;
- (b) Health needs of women with disabilities are not sufficiently identified and addressed by the State party;
- (c) Women with disabilities, women belonging to minority groups, and indigenous, migrant and asylum-seeking women sometimes encounter difficulties in accessing sexual and reproductive health services and information

36. In line with its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health and reiterating its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/SWE/CO/8-9, para. 37), the Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Increase its efforts, including through the allocation of additional resources, to address the deteriorating mental health situation of women and girls, with a particular focus on adopting preventive measures, and further analyse the root causes of the increase in work-related illness and the use of sick leave among women in order to adopt holistic solutions;**
- (b) Pay special attention to the health needs of women with disabilities, ensuring their access to support services such as rehabilitation and psychosocial care;**
- (c) Ensure that women and girls without sufficient means, including those belonging to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, have free-of-charge access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health services.**

Women with disabilities

41. The Committee notes with concern the lack of information on the situation of women with disabilities.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party, in line with its general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on disabled women:

- (a) Address intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities and ensure their inclusion and access to all rights under the Convention, including by eliminating restrictions on their legal capacity, ensuring their access to justice, protection from gender-based violence, inclusive education, employment and health services, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, and addressing their specific needs;**
- (b) Ensure that all women and girls with disabilities are able to access the labour market, give their free and informed consent to decide where and with whom they choose to live, and access all support services available to victims of gender-based violence**

YEMEN - CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/7-8

Nationality

32. The Committee is concerned that, despite the revision of the Nationality Law (No. 6 of 1990 amended by Law No. 25 of 2010), women are denied equal rights with men and continue to face numerous restrictions in conferring nationality to their children or foreign-born spouse and in retaining their nationality upon marriage or divorce. Women

are also subject to restrictions in practice on obtaining or renewing official identity documents, requiring the accompaniment of a male guardian (mahram). The Committee is gravely concerned that persons with disabilities are disqualified from acquiring Yemeni citizenship through naturalization. The Committee notes that these discriminatory provisions, the mass displacement in the State party and difficulties in attaining official documentation all contribute to women becoming stateless.

33. In line with its general recommendation No. 32 (2014) on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Repeal article 4.B of the Nationality Law, which discriminates against children with disabilities;

Disadvantaged groups of women

47. The Committee is concerned that the conflict has exacerbated the precarious situation of:

(a) Women and girls with disabilities in Yemen owing to the stoppage of basic services and forced displacement without required support;

48. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Prioritize the delivery of assistance to women and girls with disabilities, in particular by protecting them against violence and ensuring their access to education, employment, health and social security services and effective access to justice;