

**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**
Pre-session working group
Thirty-seventh session
15 January-2 February 2007

**List of issues and questions with regard to the consideration
of the fourth periodic report**

The Netherlands

The pre-session working group examined the fourth periodic report of the Netherlands (CEDAW/C/NLD/4 and CEDAW/C/NLD/4/Add.1).

**Constitution, laws/policies and national machinery for the advancement
of women**

1. Please outline the concrete goals of the multi-year emancipation policy plan

3. The report indicates a number of existing and new laws that ban discrimination against women and discrimination on other grounds. Please describe the number of court cases as well as decisions and compliance with those decisions under the

13. How many reports have been made by victims of trafficking under the B-9 arrangement and what protection is available to these victims in general and when they decline to act as witnesses in particular? What support and protection is available for foreign women victims of trafficking who are residing illegally in the Netherlands and who decide not to report the trafficking? How many victims of trafficking and traffickers have been registered under the established registration system and how many victims have been given residence permits?

14. Please provide more information on the plan of action and its implementation results for regulating and protecting the prostitution sector, including the rights and obligations of prostitutes and operators, which, as the report indicates, is an area in which clarity is lacking. Are there any plans in the Government to allow migrant women to work legally in prostitution, and if not, what are the reasons? Also please provide information on measures taken by the Government to support prostitutes who wish to leave prostitution. Further, provide information on the monitoring and its results of the prostitution policy and the compliance with licensing regulations after the ban on brothels was removed.

Stereotypes and education

15. The Committee, in its previous concluding comments, urged the Government to increase its efforts to eliminate stereotypes relating to traditional areas of employment and education for women.² The report refers to a number of projects and initiatives to combat stereotypical roles of men and women, including revision of teaching materials by a non-governmental organization and activities using the media and image-making. Please provide information on whether a comprehensive Government strategy, covering all sectors, exists to address the prevalence of stereotypes which inhibit the full and equal participation of women in Dutch society, including women of ethnic and racial minorities.

16. Please provide figures on the distribution of boys and girls in technical and non-technical disciplines at both secondary school and universities levels over the past five years, figures on the percentage of minority girls versus boys in secondary and higher education, as well as information on how the Government monitors developments in these areas.

17. The report claims that the Aspasia programme addressing the promotion of women to senior lecturer positions at the universities has been successful. Please provide figures on the percentage of women senior lecturers and professors versus men in such positions, including comparative figures on their salaries, the number of full-time and part-time appointments and the percentage of minority women in such positions.

Political participation and decision-making

18. The Committee, in its previous concluding comments urged the Government of the Netherlands to make efforts to facilitate an increase in the numbers of women in high-ranking posts, including in decision-making in politics and in the economic sector.³ While some progress has been made, women are still underrepresented in political and public life, in particular at senior levels. Please provide further

² Ibid., para. 214.

³ Ibid., para. 218.

women and women from ethnic and racial minorities. In addition, please explain the

Ratification

31. Please indicate the status of the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol

Employment

37. Please describe the measures that are being taken to combat the sex-segregation of the labour market, including in respect of women migrant workers, which, inter alia, results in wage disparity between women and men. Please also describe the measures that are being taken to lower the unemployment rate of single mothers.

Migrant women

38. Please provide information about the situation of migrant women in Aruba, including in respect of their employment, health and education.

Health

39. Please provide information on the measures that are being taken to prevent teenage pregnancies, including awareness-raising activities. Indicate if school curricula include reproductive health, including an integrated holistic plan on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness-raising. Please also provide further information on diseases that most affect women and girls.
