

9 February 2005

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

Pre-session working group for the thirty-third session
5-22 July 2005

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

Lebanon

The pre-session working group examined the initial report of Lebanon (CEDAW/C/LBN/1).

General

1. Please provide information on the process of preparation of the report, including on whether non-governmental organizations, particularly women's organizations, were consulted, and whether it was presented to Parliament or any designated high-level authority.
2. Please describe any progress concerning withdrawal of Lebanon's reservations with regard to article 9, paragraph 2, and article 16 of the Convention.
3. Please indicate any progress made with respect to ratification of, or accession to, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Articles 1 and 2

4. The report, in several sections, candidly and frankly draws attention to the persistence of discriminatory legislation (for example, the personal status laws, the citizenship law, the labour law, the social security law, the Employment Act, and the commercial law). Please explain what measures the Government is implementing in

equality between men and women and to reflect the definition of discrimination against women contained in article 1 of the Convention in the Lebanese Constitution or other legislation, including the implementation of temporary special measures in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention?

Article 3

6. The report (p. 23) indicates that "(i)n November 1998, a new law (Law No. 720) stipulated the creation of the National Commission for Lebanese Women" and that "an adequate administrative structure was established to fulfil (the Commission's) duties". Please provide details on the work that has been undertaken by the Commission since its establishment, and on its role and level of authority within the Government, as well as its human and financial resources.

Article 5

7. The report (p. 32) indicates that "the main aspects of ... stereotyping are still prevalent (in education and the media), and measures taken to abate it are either non-existent (media) or insufficient o, aBvJv,TLt

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reasons why this is the case and information on steps taken, or planned, to address the problem of violence against women in a comprehensive, coordinated and concerted manner.

