

have seen the first attempts by States parties to develop a response to the 2000 WTRC reporting requirement.

Roundtable discussion

The Roundtable discussions were divided into five sessions, each of which addressed one major topic:

- The record of reporting to date;
- Possible content of reports;
- Use of reports;
- Building momentum for reporting; and
- Expectations for the 2005 Review Conference.

I: What has reporting yielded to date?

The first topic of discussion was the record of reporting to date.

A background document reviewing the record of reporting at the 2002 and 2003 PrepComs was circulated to the Roundtable participants before the meeting. The purpose of the document was to review how States parties responded to the reporting obligation at the 2002 and 2003 PrepComs and to consider whether this experience offers guidance for the future elaboration and clarification of the Article VI reporting requirement. The document was composed of three sections: a brief description of the background of and the continuing debate related to the reporting requirement; an analysis of the number, format, and content of reports submitted to the PrepComs; and a set of general conclusions and recommendations. The document also included two appendices: a table listing the type and content of reporting by each of the States parties (Appendix I) and a detailed description of the content of reporting by the WWS States parties (Appendix II).

The session opened with a discussion of the background document's main findings.

Three categories of "report" were considered: documents formally submitted by States parties in direct response to the reporting requirement; documents provided by the WWS containing information about their programs and activities but not submitted as formal reports; and documents, statements, remarks, etc. by States parties containing elements of reporting but not submitted as formal reports. All told, 52 States parties reported at the 2002 PrepCom, 11 providing formal reports, and 60 States parties reported at the 2003 PrepCom, 28 providing