

requirement for all States parties, possibly as a stand-alone requirement independent of the 13  
Steps. It might also be possible to clarify the reporting requirement to include a request for the  
submission of formal reports.

It was also suggested that it might be possible to agree on a sentence or two describing the  
desired content of reports (e.g., "each report might include inter alia..."). This might include  
agreement on an illustrative list of categories to report on. It was noted that a good list of  
categories would be very useful, and might help to delineate a de facto reporting format.

A third possibility identified was a tasking for States parties to come up with specific  
recommendations on the format of reports for consideration at the 2019 Review Conference.

A number of participants expressed support for pursuing all three of these possibilities.

The Roundtable then discussed the mechanisms for getting such suggestions into the draft  
recommendations that might be forward at the end of the 2004 PrepCom. The first step would  
be to put the ideas forward in a well-argued working paper. (This could form a major part of  
the planned third Canadian working paper, for example.) Very specific language should be  
proposed. It would then be necessary to generate support among other States parties. Finally,  
the proposals would be addressed in the course of the extended negotiating sessions that would  
take place to determine the text of any recommendations to go forward to the 2005 Review  
Conference. If accepted, the proposals would be passed to the Review Conference as  
recommendations of the 2004 PrepCom.

A number of participants noted, however, that States parties almost certainly would not agree  
on substantive recommendations at the end of the PrepCom. The issues involved were too  
complex, and concessions normally would be made only during the horse-trading at the end  
of the process, i.e., at the end of the Review Conference itself. Nevertheless, it would be  
essential to get the proposals on the table at the PrepCom.

#### Next steps

In addition to preparing a working paper, Canada might find it useful to circulate the  
Roundtable report and Roundtable background document at the First Committee and possibly  
other venues. It was noted that the two documents should be written so as to complement one  
another, presenting a coherent message and avoiding too much overlap. One side benefit of  
circulating the documents, it was suggested, would be to counteract the impression of some  
delegations that the Canadian NGOs working on this issue are dogmatic on the question of the  
format and content of reporting.

NGOs could help to advance the reporting issue by working in parallel, through direct efforts as  
well as through NGO-to-NGO links, to shore up support for reporting among States parties  
and to bring others on side.