

UDHR such as the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

a. Freedom from discrimination

Officers should address in this sub-section abuses and discrimination **not discussed elsewhere in the report** (The treatment of women, indigenous peoples, children and the disabled should be discussed in the sub-sections which follow). The extent of discrimination based on distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sex, language, political or other opinion, property, birth, social status, sexual orientation, HIV status, should be examined. Also, officers should examine the role of the government: What efforts are being made to counter discrimination? Are there any laws banning discrimination? Are they enforced? Conversely, are any laws considered discriminatory? Has the government implemented policies, programmes or other initiatives to counter discrimination based on the above-mentioned criteria?

b. Respect for minorities, treatment of indigenous people

Officers should discuss treatment of ethnic, racial or linguistic minorities, including indigenous populations and nomadic pastoralists. Are they subject to ethnic or cultural marginalisation.

c. Women's rights

Officers should examine the extent of discrimination against women. Do women enjoy freedom from discrimination in terms of political and civil (voting) rights, reproductive rights, property rights, employment, housing, education, marriage and divorce laws? What is the incidence of violence against women in the public and private spheres? Are women's human rights denied by local cultural attitudes and customary laws (provide an indication of the social and cultural context)? Do women have access to means of production? Do they receive the lowest wages? Are they the least educated? Is there the political will to expand opportunities for women and the girl child? Gauge the extent of governmental tolerance of societal violence and other abuses against women (wife beating, dowry deaths, female mutilation).

d. Children's rights

Examine the extent of sexual exploitation, child labour, education opportunities, the use of children in armed conflicts (if applicable). Highlight any initiatives, policies or legislation to protect the rights of the child. Is legislation enforced? The government's commitment to the protection and welfare of children should be discussed. Indicate if issues of education and child labour have been discussed in previous sections of the report.