

- ▶ establish battered women's shelters and provide them with adequate financial and human resources;
- ▶ address appropriately through law the practice of so-called "honour killings", based on customs and traditions;
- ▶ review critically the practice of virginity examinations in cases of alleged rape;
- ▶ investigate whether coerced virginity examinations have been carried out on women in the investigation of sexual attacks or abuses or in any other circumstances;
- ▶ review of the requirement of spousal consent to abortion;
- ▶ mobilize the media in support of advancing the status and the rights of women, including through non-sexist and non-stereotypical portrayal of women in the media and through programmes to address violence against women;
- ▶ make an effort to increase the number of women in the media, particularly in decision-making positions;
- ▶ monitor on an urgent basis the situation of minority women and make a systematic effort to ensure for them their full legal rights guaranteed by the Convention;
- ▶ initiate temporary special measures with numerical goals and timetables to accelerate de facto equality between women and men, in particular in the political sphere and the public sector;
- ▶ revise the Citizenship Law in order to give women equal rights with men in all areas of nationality law;
- ▶ continue support to female students in order to increase the rate of female university graduates and their participation in "non-traditional" fields;
- ▶ take adequate measures to provide skills training, retraining and credit facilities or other support services that would provide employment opportunities or self-employment for urban migrant workers;
- ▶ take adequate measures to correct occupational segregation through concrete measures and to provide the necessary protection to working girls to ensure their safety and healthy conditions of work;
- ▶ establish concrete training programmes aimed at increasing opportunities for women to avail themselves of microcredit programmes;
- ▶ take measures to recognize rural women's work in family enterprises for the purposes of pension entitlement;
- ▶ disseminate information related to rural women's rights that are contained in the Convention; and,
- ▶ compile current data and statistics on family planning methods, the use of such methods by men and women, and access to contraception disaggregated by age and sex.

Torture

Signed: 25 January 1988; ratified: 2 August 1988.
 Turkey's second periodic report was due 31 August 1993;
 the third periodic report was due 31 August 1997.
Reservations and Declarations: Declarations under articles 21 and articles 22.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 14 September 1990; ratified: 4 April 1995.

Turkey's initial report was due 3 May 1997.

Reservations and Declarations: Articles 17, 29 and 30.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Arbitrary detention, Working Group on: (E/CN.4/1997/4, paras. 4, 5, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21; E/CN.4/1997/4/Add.1, Decisions 12, 27, 28, 40)

The main report notes that the Working Group transmitted to the government four urgent appeals on behalf of six individuals and two cases. The government responded to all the information and stated that the persons named in the urgent appeals had been released. The report notes that the government also responded to cases previously transmitted as well as to two decisions taken earlier by the WG. The government stated that the four people named in those two decisions had been released.

Decision 12 involved three cases: (1) the general president of Hava-Is trade union, arrested in May 1995 and convicted under Article 8 of the Anti-Terror Law (Law 3713) on the basis that he had expressed opposition to those working against the independence of the Kurdish people and thus demonstrated support for the PKK; (2) a female lawyer and executive board member of TOHAV (Foundation for Legal and Social Research) and secretary of the Istanbul Human Rights Association (HRA) branch, arrested without a warrant, and charged in March 1995 under Article 8 of the Anti-Terror Law of spreading "separatist propaganda" on the basis of an article she had written in September 1994; and (3) an employee of the local council and a board member of the Tunceli Human Rights Association (HRA), detained in March 1995, following an order to report to the police headquarters in Tunceli to give a statement, and held without charges.

The Working Group (WG) declared that, on the basis of the information received, the three individuals and the conviction and imprisonment of two of them, was the result of the fact that, as non-violent members of human rights associations, they had peacefully exercised their right to freedom of expression. The WG declared the detentions to be arbitrary.

Decision 27 concerned one individual who had been detained and was provisionally released on 17 November 1995. The WG therefore filed the case but reserved the right to re-open it should the person be detained again.

Decision 28 concerned a former deputy and chairman of the Party for Democracy and Renewal who was arrested in October 1995 and detained in Ankara Central Prison. He was charged with having disseminated propaganda against the indivisibility of the state in a speech made in May 1991 at the party congress of the Popular Workers' Party (HEP), convicted, and given a cumulative prison sentence of four years and eight months. The WG declared the detention to be arbitrary because it contravened articles 9 and 11 of the Universal Declaration.

Decision 40 arose from an initial review of the cases of six people which had been held pending until additional information on areas in which the trial of these individuals had not conformed with international norms regarding fair trial, and