

- ▶ include in the next report information on compensation for the population of Thule; and,
- ▶ provide in the next report specific information on the status and implementation of the Convention in Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 21 April 1983.

Denmark's fourth periodic report was due 21 May 1996.

Denmark's third periodic report (CEDAW/C/DEN/3) was considered by the Committee at its January 1997 session. The report prepared by the government contains information on: constitutional and legal provisions related to discrimination against women, the national plan of action, authorities responsible for ensuring the equality of women and addressing temporary special measures and priority areas of concern. The report also includes information on: political rights and public participation; access to education; the labour market; equal pay for equal; social benefits; violence against women; and, the family. The report includes commentary provided by the National Council of Women. A number of annexes are attached to the report containing the texts of laws related to areas covered by the Convention as well as tables providing statistical data on issues such as public participation, population, school enrollment, unemployment and marriage and divorce.

The Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/1997/L.1/Add.7) welcomed: Denmark's commitment to high standards of gender equality and its consistent efforts to create an egalitarian society with respect to gender; in a majority of Ministries in Denmark, the institutionalized participation of women's non-governmental organizations in the politics of equality; the mainstreaming of gender equality through the creation of Equality Commissions; efforts underway for the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action; and, the incorporation of provisions concerning persecution on the basis of gender into the laws on the status of refugees.

The principal subjects of concern identified by the Committee were: the challenges posed to implementation of temporary special measures to accelerate gender equality by decisions such as the removal of quotas by political parties; the disproportionately low levels of women's participation in academe and in research positions and in management positions in the public and the private sectors; the inadequacy of culturally and gender-sensitive measures and programmes for immigrant and refugee women to enable them to benefit from legal and social services; the absence of a specific law on violence against women; the inadequacy of information provided related to the actual incidence of violence, rape and incest; the absence of specific legislation and/or measures to sensitize the police, the judiciary or the public in general regarding those issues; the persistence of perceptions of gender roles, attitudes and behaviour that keep women away from decision-making positions and men from assuming an equal share of family responsibilities; the fact that women, despite their high level of education, are more seriously affected by unemployment than men; and, the fact that women are still paid less than men, despite efforts to initiate assessments of equal pay for work of equal value.

The Committee recommended that the government:

- ▶ maintain and strengthen temporary special measures, particularly in the areas of reducing unemployment among women; by ensuring that women and men receive equal pay for work of equal value; by increasing women's participation in private-sector decision-making; by increasing the number of female university professors and researchers; and by encouraging men to devote more time to child care and housework;
- ▶ conduct more research on the incidence of violence against women, particularly in vulnerable groups such as immigrant women, and conduct research on the advantages of enacting legislation specifically directed at reducing such violence;
- ▶ make greater efforts to determine whether trafficking in women and exploitation of prostitution are taking place and whether new communications technologies, especially the Internet, are being used for such purposes;
- ▶ in secondary education, make mandatory the "Gender and culture" course, which is currently optional in pre-university curricula;
- ▶ include in national accounts, through satellite accounts, the value of non-remunerated work done by both women and men;
- ▶ continue to include among the objectives of its development assistance programmes the promotion of the rights of women and the elimination of discrimination against women and, in particular, the implementation of the Convention in beneficiary countries; and,
- ▶ include in the next report information on: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and of the commitments announced by Denmark at the Fourth World Conference on Women; the number of women and men who work part-time, on a flexible schedule, and outside the workplace using new technologies; the steps taken by trade unions and business organizations to implement the principle of equal pay for work of equal value; the use, in cases of abortion, of the RU-486 pill; the number of women who use medically assisted reproduction techniques and the number of children adopted; disabled women, especially in terms of their access to education and employment; the concrete results and de facto impact of policies on and programmes for women; and, the economic situation of women, including successful measures to combat the unemployment of women.

Torture

Signed: 4 February 1985; ratified: 27 May 1987.

Denmark's fourth periodic report is due 25 June 2000.

Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under articles 21 and 22.

Denmark's third periodic report (CAT/C/34/Add.3) was considered by the Committee at its April/May 1997 session. The report prepared by the government includes information on: the liability of subordinates; asylum and residency permits; the definition of torture and mental torture; cooperation with the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda; extradition and transfer of witnesses held abroad; human rights education; medical evidence related to