

a. Right to an adequate standard of living

Officers are asked to evaluate the following rights:

- **The right to adequate food:** To what extent has this right been realized in the country under review? Are there any nutritional surveys from which to cite statistics? What is the situation of vulnerable groups with regard to the right to adequate food? Have there been any changes in policies, laws and practices adversely affected the affordability and access to adequate food? Are there any government policies that hinder food production and distribution, such as forced collectivisation or conversely, the introduction of a free market in property without adequate protection for dispossessed rural sectors? Is there a deliberate withholding of food from a significant sector of the population? Is there a denial of access to land to a significant portion of the population who were using it to grow food?
- **The right to adequate housing:** Officers should remember that the right to adequate housing should not be interpreted in a restrictive sense which equates it with the right to have a roof over one's head. It should rather be seen as the right to live in peace, security and dignity. It is thus inextricably linked to the enjoyment of other human rights. Officers could indicate whether there are groups that are vulnerable or disadvantaged with regard to the right to adequate housing. Is housing accessible, affordable, habitable and conveniently located near schools and other services? Do all groups have access to basic amenities such as water, heating (if necessary), waste disposal, sanitation facilities, electricity? Are there any laws negatively or positively affecting the right to adequate housing?
- **The right to health care and social security:** Officers are asked to provide statistics and indicators such as: the percentage of GNP and national budgets allocated to social security (i.e. health care, old-age benefits, unemployment, family benefits, etc.) relative to military expenditures; infant mortality rate and life expectancy disaggregated by sex; the extent of coverage provided (i.e. are there any groups which do not enjoy social security at all or to a lesser degree than the majority of the population?) What policy measures has the government taken, considering available resources, to implement the right to social security for all citizens? Are there any "safety nets" to protect the most vulnerable members of society e.g. women, children, the aged, the disabled.

b. Right to work, just and favourable conditions (UDHR Art. 23 and 24)

In this sub-section, officers could provide a few statistics on the situation, level and trends of employment, unemployment and underemployment in the country under review. The following could also be examined:

- Are there policies and programmes aimed at ensuring that there is work for all those who are available for and seeking work?
- Is there freedom of choice of employment?