



THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) IN PROTECTING AND ENSURING THEIR RIGHTS.

Nosirova Marjona

Republic of Uzbekistan Sciences

Academy of State and right

institute PhD student E-mail:

marjonanosirova58@gmail.com

Phone: +998770743677

Article history:	Abstract:
Received: 24 th May 2025 Accepted: 20 th June 2025	<p>This article reveals the organization, structure, goals and tasks of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Also, the Charter of the Committee, the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women are included.</p> <p>The importance of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in the international community today is acknowledged and discussed. In addition, the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and Girls will be informed about the duties and responsibilities of the Committee for the Protection of Women's Rights and Freedoms, as well as the role and participation of women as honorable members not only of society, but also of every family.</p> <p>In addition, the tasks and functions of the Committee in terms of ensuring women's rights are compared in depth according to the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.</p>

Keywords: UN, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, expert, discrimination

Today, ensuring the rights and legitimate interests of women is one of the ultimate tasks for every democratic state. As is known, human rights are ensured by the state, and human rights guarantees are strengthened by our constitution, laws and other subordinate legal acts. State and non-governmental organizations play an important role in protecting human rights. In this regard, the participation of non-governmental non-profit organizations as the "third sector" is also growing. In particular, it can be said that non-governmental non-profit organizations that protect human rights in the international community are not losing their importance today. In particular, one of such international organizations is the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It is no exaggeration to say that its work to protect the rights and freedoms of women is worthy of praise.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) is an independent expert body that monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Adopted by the United Nations in 1979, the

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) is arguably the most important treaty for women, protecting their rights and freedoms and preventing discrimination against women.

As is known, the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is monitored by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Committee's mandate and management functions are set out in articles 17-30 of the Convention. The Committee consists of 23 experts nominated by their governments and elected by the States Parties as persons of "high moral standing and competence in the field covered by the Convention."

States that have ratified the Convention are legally obligated to:

- Eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in all spheres of life;
- To ensure the full development and advancement of women so that they can exercise and enjoy their human rights and



fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with men;

- To allow the committee to scrutinize the efforts to implement the agreement by reporting to the body on a regular basis.

States parties to the treaty (States parties)

must submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights in the Convention are being implemented. During its open sessions, the Committee considers each State party's report and addresses its concerns and recommendations to the State party in the form of concluding observations.

In accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention, the Committee:

It is required to receive communications from individuals or groups of individuals who submit to the Committee allegations of violations of the rights protected by the Convention and to initiate inquiries into cases of serious or systematic violations of women's rights. However, these procedures are voluntary and only become effective if the State party concerned accepts them. The Committee also holds days of general discussion and makes general recommendations. These include suggestions and clarifications addressed to States parties on articles or topics covered by the Convention. The Committee meets in Geneva and usually holds three sessions a year, consisting of a three-week plenary session and a one-week pre-session working group.

The Committee's treaty is a tool that helps women around the world make changes in their daily lives. In countries that have ratified the treaty, CEDAW has been invaluable in addressing the consequences of discrimination, including violence, poverty and lack of legal protection, as well as denial of inheritance, property rights and access to credit.

The agreement contributed to the development of:

- *Civil rights in Botswana and Japan;*
- *Inheritance law in Tanzania;*
- *The issue of property rights and political participation in Costa Rica.*

The Committee also supports the adoption of several laws in some States today. In particular, the law on gender equality in Mongolia; the law prohibiting discrimination based on sex in entering certain areas in Rwanda; laws against domestic violence in Turkey, Nepal, South Africa and the Republic of Korea; legislation criminalizing all forms of violence against women in Burkina Faso and femicide in Panama; the national inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women in Canada; and anti-trafficking laws in Ukraine and Moldova. In addition, in response to the concluding

observations of the CEDAW Committee, the Chinese government has taken steps to limit the use of sex-selective abortion and sex-selective abortion, and to change stereotypes that favor sons. Sri Lanka has introduced gender-sensitive budgets for the economic development of agriculture.

The committee currently continues its work to protect women's rights around the world. According to statistics, 151 experts have served as members of the committee since 1982. The committee's staff consists of a chairperson, three vice-chairpersons, and a rapporteur. Officers serve for a two-year term, with the right to re-election "if the principle of rotation is supported."

Another important aspect is that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has its own rules of procedure, which were developed in 1992 and include a total of 4 parts, 18 chapters, and 94 articles.

According to its rule 1, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") shall organize the meetings of the Committee referred to in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention") [1].

Also, the second part of the rules is entitled "Rules relating to the functions of the Committee", which are reflected in articles 48 to 55. The submission of reports is established in accordance with article 18 of the Convention, and in particular, according to article 48, it performs the following functions:

1. The Committee monitors progress in implementing legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures by examining reports submitted by States parties to the Convention.

2. To assist States parties in submitting their reports, it issues general statements, taking into account the guidelines for the preparation of initial and periodic reports, and the consolidated guidelines common to all human rights treaty bodies.

3. Having examined the form and content of initial and periodic reports, it shall communicate to States Parties, through the Secretary-General, general guidelines on the form and content of their reports.

4. The State party reporting to the Committee may submit additional information before the Committee considers the report. To this end, the Secretary-General shall be requested to submit a report thereon at least four months before the opening of the session.

5. The Committee may exceptionally request a State party to submit a report. Such reports shall be limited to focusing on the State party in question [2].



In addition, Article 53 of the "Rules" also enshrines certain functions. In particular, the Committee may consider reports from States Parties and, in order to assist the State Party in fulfilling its obligations under the Convention, interpret them and draw conclusions.

On 9 April 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 68/268 on "Strengthening and improving the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system"[3]. It decided to review the effectiveness of the measures by 2020. In particular, a collaborative process led by Morocco and Switzerland concluded in 2020 with a report and recommendations. The process included informal consultations with Member States in New York and Geneva, as well as with all stakeholders, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination, treaty bodies, civil society, academia and national human rights institutions.

It is encouraging that in 2023-2024, **a digital platform for submitting complaints about human rights violations to UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies**, was launched. This can be considered one of the main achievements in improving the human rights protection system.

As you know, today, the measures being taken within the framework of international cooperation on human rights, not only by the UN and its structures, but also by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, are pleasing to the eye.

In conclusion, it can be said that the Committee's friendly relations with Uzbekistan on the issue of cooperation are developing steadily. For example, in February 2022, experts from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, through a delegation led by the Director of the National Center for Human Rights, Academician Akmal Saidov, positively assessed the sixth report of Uzbekistan. The issue of providing information about women living with HIV and AIDS was also raised before our country, and Uzbekistan was congratulated on the adoption of the new Civil Code. A. Saidov expressed his deep gratitude to the Chairman of the Committee and the participants for the sincere and open dialogue between the two sides, and noted that Uzbekistan has achieved a lot of success in the field of human rights at the national and international levels, but there are still many problems that need to be solved. In his opinion, "no issue is off-limits, because this is a New Uzbekistan that is open to the whole world." When talking about the Committee, it is appropriate to mention its achievements and successes. To date, the United Nations (UN) Secretary-

General has published a number of reports on the state of the human rights treaty body system.

REFERENCES :

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