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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**

Pre-session working group for the thirty-fourth session
16 January-3 February 2006

**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under
article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms
of Discrimination against Women**

Report of the pre-session working group

1. At its ninth session, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women decided to convene a pre-session working group for five days before each session of the Committee to prepare lists of issues and questions relating to the periodic reports that would be considered by the Committee at its next session.
2. At its thirty-first session, the Committee decided that the pre-session working group would also prepare lists of issues and questions for initial reports. The Committee also decided that each list would contain not more than a total of 30 clear and direct questions. In preparing the lists of issues and questions for periodic reports, particular attention would be paid to States parties' follow-up to previous concluding comments, and its previous report would be taken into consideration. The practice of clustering questions under priority topics rather than addressing specific articles would continue.
3. At its thirty-second session, the Committee decided that the pre-session working group for the Committee's thirty-fourth session would meet from 25 to 29 July 2005 and that the following five members of the Committee, representing different regions, would participate:

Mary Shanthi Dairiam	(Malaysia)
Magalys Arocha Domínguez	(Cuba)
Françoise Gaspard	(France)
Pramila Patten	(Mauritius)
Victoria Popescu	(Romania)

4. The pre-session working group elected Victoria Popescu (Romania) as its Chairperson.
5. In accordance with the list of States parties selected by the Committee to present reports at its thirty-f

(e) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined fourth and fifth periodic report of Thailand (CEDAW/C/THA/Q/4-5);

(f) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined initial, second and third periodic report of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (CEDAW/C/MCD/Q/1-3);

(g) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic report of Togo (CEDAW/C/TGO/Q/1-5);

(h) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (CEDAW/C/VEN/Q/4-6).

12. In accordance with Committee decisions 22/IV, 25/II and 31/III, the lists of issues and questions focused on themes addressed by the Convention. The themes included the constitutional and legislative framework and national machinery for the advancement of women's participation