

Discrimination

Questions with regard to the considered report*

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on the process
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the nature and
non-govern
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Austri
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ommendation 239,
dealing with equal
to 31 January 2004. Please
proceedings on equal treatment
number of pending and concluded cases,
comes.

that plan are in progress for the restructuring of the Equal
ssion. According to the plan, the scope of the work of the
be extended to monitor the equal treatment not only of women and

number of questions and questions refers to the English version of the

17. In its previous concluding comments (recommendation 236), the Committee expressed concern about the disadvantages suffered by single women, especially never-married and divorced elderly women, with respect to retirement pensions and social security benefits. The report describes the amendment of the pension schemes, in response to the Committee's recommendation. Please elaborate in more detail how the specific situation and needs of the above-mentioned groups of women were taken into account in this reform. In particular, please explain to what extent the equalization supplements described under article 11, paragraph 1 (e), eliminate discrimination against women in pensions.

Health

18. Please provide information about the main findings of studies on the socio-economic factors influencing women's health undertaken in 2002 and 2003 (response to recommendation 237, A/55/38) and how they have influenced government policies on the issue since then.

19. According to the report, women's health centres are subsidized by the Federal Ministry of Health and Women's Issues "in accordance with the available budget" (response to recommendation 237). Please provide data illustrating the number of centres and the adequacy of subsidies provided to the centres in meeting the health needs of women. Describe what steps the Government is taking to address a possible shortage of subsidies.

20. Please provide sex-disaggregated statistics on HIV/AIDS in Austria, including in the migrant population, and elaborate on any awareness-raising campaigns and assistance programmes available in the country, both for the general population and vulnerable groups.

by State officials. In its reply to the Committee's concluding comments (recommendation 229), the report states that "[i]n the event of suspicion of any form of encroachment by staff on asylum seekers, charges of an offence will be filed ...". Please provide statistics and information on the nature of any such charges and their outcomes.

25. Please provide an assessment of the impact of educational initiatives launched by the provinces targeting migrant women described under article 10 (e), "Educational provision for female migrants", taking into account the information in the report that they are "open to women alike" and that "all the programmes and courses on offer are devised with an eye to gender-specific aspects".

Optional Protocol

26. Please provide information on measures taken in order to make widely known the Optional Protocol to the Convention, which Austria ratified on 6 September 2000.
