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**Statement by  
NICOLE AMELINE**

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

**COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF  
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN**

67th session of the General Assembly  
Third Committee  
Item 28

15 October 2012  
New York



**Chairperson,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Colleagues and friends,**

the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, I am honoured to have been invited to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the Third Committee of the General Assembly, pursuant to its resolution

We are fully aware of the constant challenges that concern all of humanity, including women's access to justice, to education, to health, and to decision-making positions in the political sphere. The recognition and promotion of the rights of women in the world should be the active principle of the development of modern societies

**Chairperson,  
Distinguished delegates,**

Status of the Convention and Optional Protocol

Turning to the status of the Convention and its Optional Protocol, I note that 187 States are party to the Convention. We encourage the remaining States to join the global

mandates the Committee to receive and consider petitions and inquiries into allegations of grave or systematic violations of the Convention, has now been accepted by 104 States parties Cote d'Ivoire is the most recent State to have acceded to the Optional Protocol on 20 January 2012

2010, the Chairpersons endorsed guidelines on the independence and impartiality of treaty

bodies' members and also strongly recommended its prompt adoption by all the Committees

For its part, the CEDAW Committee adopted a resolution at its 50th session

On 20 July 2012, the Committee has been informed by the High Commissioner that the Committee's July session would be moved from New York to Geneva. The Committee is concerned about the serious detrimental impact of this decision on its interactions with key

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of non-discrimination and substantive equality that underpins the Convention, and the concept of intersecting forms of discrimination.

The Committee's jurisprudence under the Optional Protocol is an emerging area of importance. The views of the Committee have been influential in the creation of an international women's human rights jurisprudence, with the Committee's jurisprudence being used increasingly in regional human rights courts, such as the European Court of Human

Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. One recent case has been referred to as a landmark decision as it represents the first case on maternal mortality decided by a treaty body.

**Chairperson,  
Distinguished delegates,**

Activities of Committee Members

Committee members have as usual been very active in promoting the Convention and women's issues through speaking at numerous United Nations and non-United Nations fora. These opportunities are vital to raising awareness of the Convention and its implementation.