

United Nations  Nations

equal basis with men, as well as to provide effective remedies against acts of discrimination against women.

The sixteen substantive articles of the Convention identify the specific areas of discrimination that are of particular concern to women and establish the means to eliminate discrimination in these areas. In Part I of the Convention (articles 1-6) States parties agree to take all appropriate measures to bring about the advancement of women.

a total of 30 participants from key ministries, including the Ministry of Women's Affairs, would be trained on the provisions of the Convention. Such training would include presentations on international human rights law and the Convention, as well as practical exercises on the Convention and ways of using it in policy and programme development, and good practice examples from other States parties to the Convention in implementing the Convention. Opportunities for inter-sectoral collaboration as well as collaboration with the international community, and with civil society, would be discussed. Modalities for preparation of the State party's initial report would also be part of the training. It is anticipated that the training would take place approximately 2-3 months after the high-level consultation.

The training team would consist of 3 experts and 2 UN staff members.

Inputs required

The Division for the Advancement of Women will propose the team of experts and a draft programme of meetings with ministries, provide relevant documentation in consultation with the experts, and cover the costs of the mission. It will also support the experts in finalizing their report and recommendations.

Based on the report of the experts, and in consultation with them, the Division will propose the programme for the training, as well as identify the experts and materials. It will cover the costs for experts and resource persons.

Expected results

Based on the support provided by the experts, it is expected that progress in implementation of the Convention in the State party will be significantly accelerated, and that a framework will be created for reporting to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

In addition, it is expected that this technical assistance from the Division for the Advancement of Women will facilitate and encourage medium- to long-term follow-up and support by other parts of the United Nations system and the donor community to the Government of Afghanistan in the implementation of the Convention. This should in particular include necessary support for implementation of the concluding comments which the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be adopting after presentation by the State party of its initial report. In this regard it is noted that Afghanistan has yet to submit a report in accordance with article 18 of the Convention, and that its initial periodic report was due in April 2004.

New York, July 2006