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# UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

# Draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

# Working paper prepared by the Secretary-General

# Addendum

# CONTENTS :

# Decisions taken by the Working Group of the Whole on the Drafting of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women during the thirty-second session of the General Assembly

# I. Texts adopted

	Preambular paragraphs 1 to 11 (including new paragraphs) Preambular paragraphs 12 (former 9), 13 (former 10) and	3
	14 (former 11)          Articles 1, 2 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g), 3 to 7         Article 8, introductory sentence and paragraphs (a), (b),	5 6
	(c) (former (d)) and a new article $9 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	9
II.	Texts deleted	
	Former preambular paragraph 7	10 10 10
III.	Proposals transmitted to the Third Committee of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly	
	a. Title of the draft Convention	11

78-21407

# CONTENTS (continued)

Page

Ъ.	New preambular paragraph 8	11
c.	Preambular paragraph 9 (former 8)	12
d.	Preambular paragraph 11 (former 10)	14
e.	New preambular paragraph 12	15
f.	Article 2, introductory sentence and paragraph (f)	15
g.	Article 6	17
h.	Article 9, paragraphs 1 and 4	17

### DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE ON THE DRAFTING OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN DURING THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### I. Texts Adopted

SOURCE:	DRAFT CONVENTION A/32/218/Annex IV	SOURCE:	TEXT ADOPTED A/C.3/32/L.59/Annex I

#### PREAMBLE

#### The States Parties to the present Convention,

Noting that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirmed faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Noting that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms the principle of the inadmissibility of discrimination and proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, including distinction based on sex,

Noting that under the international covenants on human rights, States have the obligation to secure the equal rights of men and women to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights,

Considering the conventions concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and the resolutions, declarations and recommendations adopted by them promoting equality of rights of women and "Considering the international conventions concluded under the men,

# Paragraph 1

Noting that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirmed faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women'.

PREAMBLE

#### Paragraph 2

Noting that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirmed the principle of the inadmissibility of discrimination and proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind including distinction based on sex".

### New formulation of paragraph 3 as amended

"The States Parties to the present Convention

Noting that under the International Convenants on Human Rights States Parties have the obligation to secure the equal rights of men and women to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights".

Paragraph 4, as amended

auspices of the United Nations and specialized agencies promoting equality of rights of women and men".

#### New preambular paragraph 5 orally presented by Denmark

"Noting also the resolutions, declarations and recommendations adopted by the United Nations and the specialized agencies to promote equality of rights of women and men".

### Cohncerned, however, that depsite those various instrumeints, extensive discrimination against women continues to, exist,

Rescalling that discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity, is an obstacle to the participation of women on, equal terms with men, in the political, social, econobmic and cultural life of their countries, hampers the growth of the prosperity of society and the family, and makes more difficult the full development of the potentialities of women in the service of their countries and humanity,

Affirming that the strengthening of international peace anid security, friendly co-operation among States irrespective of their social and economic systems, total anid complete disarmament under strict and effective inte;rnational control, the elimination of colonialism and racism in all their forms including apartheid, elimi-

naition of the gap between developing and developed

# TEXT ADOPTED

SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59

# Paragraph 6 (former 5)

<u>'Concerned</u>, however, that despite those various instruments, extensive discrimination against women continues to exist".

# Paragraph 7 (former 6)

"<u>Recalling</u> that discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity, is an obstacle to the participation of women, on equal terms with men, in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their countries, hampers the growth of the prosperity of society and the family, and makes more difficult the full development of potentialities of women in the service of their countries and humanity".

# New paragraph 8 presented by Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Singapore and Somalia as amended

"<u>Concerned</u>, that in situations of poverty women have the least access to food, health, education, training and opportunities for employment and other needs".

Although the sponsors and other delegations stated that they would like to see this paragraph precede former preambular paragraph  $\beta$ , the Working Group did not take a decision on the place of the paragraph.

#### Paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 (former 8)

The following texts were adopted with the understanding that they will be forwarded to the Third Committee with amendments submitted by Yugoslavia, Syrian Arab Republic; the Philippines, Romania, Rwanda and Morocco (for text of amendments see p. 11 below)

"<u>Convinced</u> that the establishment of a new, just and equitable international economic order will contribute significantly towards the promotion of equality between men and women".

# - 11 -

DRAFT CONVENTIONS	TEXT ADOPTED
SOURCE: A/32/218/Annex IV	SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59
	Paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 (former 8) continued
countries, and the right to self-determination are vita in promoting the fundamental rights of women in the achievement of which they should play their full part,	" <u>Emphasizing</u> that the eradication of <u>apartheid</u> , of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, colonialism and foreign domination, is essential to the full enjoyment of the rights of men and women".
	"Affirming that the strengthening of international peace and security, relaxation of international tension, mutual co- operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic systems, general and complete disarament under strict and effective international control, the affirmation of the principles of justice, equality and mutual benefit in relations among countries, and the right to self-determination will promote social progress and development and as a con- sequence will contribute to the attainment of full equality between men and women".
	Paragraph 12 (former 9)
<u>Convinced</u> that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields.	" <u>Convinced</u> that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world, and the cause of peace requires the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields".
	Paragraph 13 (former 10)
	The following text was adopted with the understanding that it will be presented to the Third Committee with an amend- ment by Mexico (see page $1^4$ below for text of amendment).
Bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the development of society, so far not fully recognized, the social significance of maternity and of the role of parents in the family and in the rearing of children,	"Bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the development of society, so far not fully recognized, the social significance of maternity and of the role of both parents in the family and in the rearing of children".
	Paragraph 14 (former 11)
Determined to implement the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination agains Women and, for that purpose, to adopt the measures required for the elimination of such discrimination $\underline{de}$ facto or $\underline{de}$ jure,	"Determined to implement the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and, for that purpose, to adopt the measures required for the elimination of such discrimination in all its forms and manifestations".
Have agreed on the following	Have <u>agreed</u> on the following:

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DRAFT C	CONVENTIONS
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#### TEXT ADOPTED

SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59

#### I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

For the purpose of the present Convention the term "discrimination against women" shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect of or the purpose of impairing or nullify ing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, on a basis of equality with men, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social cultural or any other field of public life.

#### Article 2

(a) Each State Party undertakes to embody the principle of the equality of men and women in its national Constitution if not yet incorporated therein, and to ensure, through law or other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;

(b) Each State Party undertakes to adopt legislative and/or all other appropriate measures, accompanied by sanctions, prohibiting all discrimination against women and guaranteeing the realization of the principle of equality of rights;

(c) Each State Party undertakes to establish legal protection for equal rights of men and women

(d) Each State Party undertakes to engage in no act or practice of discrimination against women to ensure that public authorities and public institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation; I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1, as amended:

"For the purpose of the present Convention the term 'discrimination against women' shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect of or the purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public kife".

# Article 2 paragraph (a) as amended

"Each State Party undertakes to embody the principle of the equality of men and women in its national Constitution or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein, and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle".

#### New version of paragraph (b)

"Each State Party undertakes to adopt appropriate legislative and other measures including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women".

#### New version of paragraph (c) as amended

"Each State Party undertakes to establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination".

#### New version of paragraph (d) as amended

"Each State Party undertakes not to engage in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation".

DRAFT CO	NVENTIONS
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SOURCE: A/32/218/Annex IV

### Article 2(continued)

(e) Each State Party shall endeavour to take all preventive measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person or organization;

(g) Each State Party shall endeavour to promote organizations and movements whose purpose is to advance the status of women and eliminate discrimination against them.

#### Article 3

The States Parties shall undertake in all fields, in particular the political, social, economic and cultural, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.

#### Article 4

1. Adoption by States of temporary special measures aimed at accelerating <u>de facto</u> equality shall not be considered discriminatory but shall in no way entail, as a consequence, the maintenance of unequal or separate standarüs and should be discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved.

2. Adoption by States of special measures, including those measures contained in the present Convention, aimed at protecting maternity, shall not be considered discriminatory. SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59

#### New version of paragraph (e)

"Each State Party shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise".

# Paragraph (g) as amended

"Each State Party shall endeavour to promote national organizations and movements whose purpose is to advance the status of women and eliminate discrimination against them".

## Article 3

"The States Parties shall undertake in all fields, in particular the political, social, economic and cultural, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men."

#### New version of Article 4, paragraph 1

"Adoption by States of temporary special measures aimed at accelerating <u>de facto</u> equality of women with men shall not be considered discrimination as defined in this Convention, but shall in no way entail, as a consequence, the maintenance of unequal or separate standards and shall be discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved".

#### Paragraph 2

Adoption by States of special measures, including those measures contained in the present Convention, aimed at protecting maternity, shall not be considered discriminatory".

#### DRAFT CONVENTIONS

SOURCE: A/32/218/Annex IV

#### Article 5

1. The States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women.

2. Suitable family education should include a proper understanding of motherhood as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of both men and women in the upbringing and development of their children.

#### Article 6

Each State Party agrees to repeal all provisions of national penal codes which constitute discrimination against women.

#### Article 7

Each State Party agrees to take all appropriate measures including legislation, to combat all forms of traffic<sup>e</sup> in women and exploitation of prostitution of women

### TEXT ADOPTED

SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59

# <u>Article 5</u>

The States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to:

#### Paragraph 1

"1. To modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women".

# New version of paragraph 2

"2. To ensure that family education includes a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of both men and women in the upbringing and development of their children"

# Article 6

The Working Group with the exception of Argentina adopted the following text and agreed to submit it to the Third Committee together with the Argentinian amendment (for text of Argentinian amendment see page 17 below).

"Each State Party agrees to repeal all provisions of national penal codes which constitute discrimination against women".

#### New version of Article 7

"The States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women."

TEXT ADOPTED
SOURCE: A/C.3/32/L.59
to ensure to women on equal terms with men and without any discrimination the opportunity to represent their Governments at the international level and to participate in the work

# II. Texts deleted

# Former preambular paragraph 7

<u>Concerned</u>, particularly that scientific and technological progress has, in general, improved thepotential for employment and the development of new skills but without benefitting women to the same extent as men,

# Article 8 paragraph (c)

(c) To vote in all public referenda;

# Article 10 (former 9) paragraphs 2 and 3

2. Each States Party agrees that the alien husband or wife of one of its nationals may, at his or her request, acquire the nationality of his or her spouse through specially privileged naturalization procedures; the granting of such nationality is subject to such limitation as may be imposed in the interests of national security, public policy or certain penal or administrative provisions taken against the applicant.

3. Each State Party agrees that the present Convention shall not be construed as affecting any legislation or judicial practice by which the alien husband or wife of one of its nationals may, at his/her request, acquire his/her spouse's nationality as a matter of right.

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP	AMENDMENTS	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	SOURCE
Title "Draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	Adopted to send to the Third Committee the original title of the Draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimi- nation against Women to- gether with the amendments proposed by the Philippines Romania and Rwanda	<u>Rwanda, Romania</u> ind the Philippines <u>Replace</u> the title by the following: 'Draft Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women".		A/C.3/32/L.59, paras. 8-14
- -	Adopted at third meeting of the Working Group and left the question of the placement of the paragraph open. The co-sponsors suggested that this para- graph should precede former paragraph S. Adopt ed as amended by consen- sus		New Preambular paragraph 8 Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Singapore and Somalia New preambular paragraph amend- ed and adopted by Working Group as follows: "Concerned that in situations of poverty, women have the least access to food, health, education, training and opportunities for employment and other needs",	

/...

# III. <u>Proposals transmitted to the Third Committee of the</u> <u>33rd session of the General Assembly</u>

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE 32nd session of the GA	Amendments	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	80URCE
Preambular paragraph 9 (former 8)			<u>New compromise texts</u>	A/C.3/32/L.59 paras. 44-50
peace and security, friendly co-operation among States irrespec-	<u>adopted</u> at the llth meeting with the understanding that it will be forwarded to the Third Committee accompanied by amendments		" <u>Convinced</u> that the establish- ment of a new, just and equit- able international economic order will contribute signifi- cantly towards the promotion of equality between men and women, <u>Emphasizing</u> that the eradica- tion of <u>apartheid</u> , of all forms of racism, racial discrimi- nation, colonialism and foreign domination, is essential to the full enjoyment of the rights of men and women, <u>Affirming</u> that the strengthen- ing of international peace and security, relaxation of inter- national tension, mutual co- operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic systems, general and complete disarmament under strict and effective interna- tion of the principles of jus- tice, equality and mutual benefit in relations among countries, and the right to self-determination will promde social progress and development and as a consequence will con- tribute to the attainment of full equality between men and women".	
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-12-

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE <sup>32</sup> ND SESSION OF THE GA	Amendments	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	BOURCE
Preambular paragreph 9 (former 8) continued		To compromised text		
		(8a) Syrian Arab Republic		A/C.3/32/L.59
		<u>Add</u> the word "the" <u>before</u> the words "new interna- tional economic order"		Annex I
		Yugoslavia		A/C.3/32/L.59/ Annex I
		Replace the word "a" by the word "the" <u>before</u> the words "new international economic order". <u>Delete</u> the words "just and equit able" <u>before</u> the words "international economic order". <u>After</u> these words <u>add</u> the words "based on equity and jus- tice".		
		(8b) <u>Philippines, Romania</u> <u>and Rwanda</u> <u>Add</u> tne words "neo- colonialism" after the		A/C.3/32/L.59/ Annex I
		word "colonialism".		
		Syrian Arab Republic After the words "foreign domination" add the words "foreign occupation". (8c)		A/C.3/32/L.59 Annex I
		<u>Morocco</u> <u>After</u> the words "the right to self-determination" <u>add</u> the words "as well as respect of national		A/C.3/32/L.59/ Annex I
		sovereignty and territorial integrity of States"		

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE 32nd SESSION OF THE GA	Amendments	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	SOURCE
Preambular paragraph 9 (formerly 8) continued		(8c) continued. <u>Philippines, Romania</u> <u>and Rezanda</u> <u>After</u> the words "general and complete disarmament" <u>add</u> the words "and in par ticular nuclear disarma- ment"		A/C.3/32/L.5 Annex I
		Syrian Arab Republic <u>Retain</u> the words "about fundamental rights" con- tained in the previous compromise text.		A/C.3/32/L.5 Annex I
Preambular paragraph 11 (former 10)				A/C.3/32/L.5 paragraph
Bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the development of society so far not fully recog- nized, the social signifi- cance of maternity and of the role of parents in the family and in the rearing of children"	orally amended: "Bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the development of society, so far not fully recognized, the social significance of maternity and of the role of both parents in the family and in the rearing of childrer At the 7th meeting the			A/C.3/32/L.5 paragraph

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP of THE 32nd SESSION OF THE GA	Amendments	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	BOURCE
Freambular paragraph ll (formerly 10) continued		responsibility between men and women and society as a whole".		
	<ul> <li>To present to the Third Committee two alternative versions of the paragraphs</li> </ul>		New preambular paragraph 12 Alternative version Byelorussian SSR 'Aware that the position of women cannot be changed with-	A/C.3/32/L.59 para. 57
			out ensuring equality between men and women in sodiety and in the family". <u>Sweden</u>	
			"Aware that the position of women cannot be changed with- out also a change in the tra- ditional role of men in soci- ety and in the family".	
Article 2 <u>Introductory sentence</u> "The States Parties con- demn discrimination against women and undertake to	At its 5th meeting, to transmit two versions to the Third Committee of the General Assembly		Alternative versions Introductory sentence as it appears in the Draft Conven- tion	A/C:3/32/L.59 para. 60
<pre>women and undertake to pursue,by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end:"     <u>Paragraph(f)</u> "Each State Party shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modifyor</pre> At its 6th meeting, to submit the paragraph as it appears in the Draft Convention together with			"The States Parties condemn discrimination against women and undertake to pursue, by all appropriate means and without delay, a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and. to this	
		end;" <u>Byelorussian SSR</u> "The States Parties condemn discrimination against women	A/C.3/32/L.59 paras. 82-88	
abolish existing laws	amendments to it for the consideration of the Third Committee		in all its forms denying or	

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GA	amendments	REVISIONS AND WEW PARAGRAPHS	SOURCE
Paragraph (f) continue megulations, customs and practices which are dis- criminatory to women'.		Kenya Proposed to delete the paragraph on the grounds that it is a repetition of paragraph (b) of the same article	limiting their equality of rights with men and undertake to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimi nation against women and to this end;"	- A/C.3/32/L.59/ Annex I
		United States of America Substitute paragraph (f) by the following: "Each State Party shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, with a view to achieving the elimination of dis- crimination against comen, whether based upon law, regulation, custom or practice"		A/C.3/32/WG.1/ CRP.2 A/C.3/32/L.59 paragraph 85
		<u>Mali</u> An oral amendment: <u>reword</u> the paragraph as follows: "Each State Party shall take within the framework of its policies for eco- nomic, social and cultural advancement, all appropri ate measures including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws and regulations which are discriminatory to women".		A/C.3/32/L.59, paragraph 86
/ 		An oral sub-amendment to this amendment was sub- mitted by the representa- tive of Mprocco, i.e. to		A/C.3/32/L.59, paragraph 87

-16-

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DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP CF THE 32nd SESSION OF THE GA	Amendments	REVISIONB AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	SOURCE
Paragraph (f) continued		<u>include</u> the word "customs <u>after</u> the words "laws and regulations"		
Article b				
"Each State Party agrees to repeal all provisions of national penal codes which constitute discri- mination against women"	At its 8th meeting, adop ted the articles as it appears in the Draft Con- vention with the exception of Argentina. The Working Group accepted the Argen- tinian suggestion that her amendment be submitted to the Third Committee to- gether with the text of Article 6			
	Article 6	<u>Argentina</u> <u>Replace</u> "national penal		A/C.3/32/L.59 para. 107
		codes" by "all national legislation".		
· <u> </u>				
Article 9				
paragraph 1 The States Parties shall grant spouses equal rights to acquire, change or re-	At its 12th meeting, to present to the Third Com- mittee two alternative versions			A/C.3/32/L.59 para. 140
tain their nationality and shall require, in particu- lar, that neither marriage		<u>Two alternative versions</u> (1) <u>Amendment of Kenya</u> Replace para. 1 by the		A/C.3/32/WG.1/C 8/Add.2
of a person to, nor dis- solution of marriage from, an alien nor the change of nationality by an alien person during marraige shall automatically change		following: "The States Parties shall grant spouses equal rights to acquire, change or retain their nationality. They shall		
one's nationality, render one stateless or force upon one the nationality of the spouse.		ensure in particular that neither marriage to an alien, dissolution of such marriage nor change of nationality of either		
		spouse shall automatically change the other spouses nationality or render him or her stateless.		

-17-

DRAFT CONVENTION	DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP OF THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GA	Amendments	REVISIONS AND NEW PARAGRAPHS	BOURCE
<u>Artice 9 paragraph 1</u> : <u>ontinued</u>		<ul> <li>(2) Subamendment of the USSR to the amendment of Kenya</li> <li>"The States Parties shall grant women equal rights to acquire, change or re- tain their nationality. They shall ensure in par- ticular that neither marriage to an alien nor change of nationality by the husband during marri- age shall automatically change the nationality of the wife, render her stateless or force upon here the nationality of</li> </ul>		A/C.3/32/WG.1/ CRP/9
rticle 9 Jargraph 4	Paragraph 4 At its 12th meeting, to	her the nationality of the husband".	-	A/C.3/32/L.59 Para. 162
agree o grant women equal p rights with men to trans- mit thir nationality to their whildren.	present to the Third Com- mittee the original text of paragraph 4 together with amendments submitted to it	the Netherlands		A/C.3/32/L.59
		Replace the words "to transmit their nationality to their children" with the words "with respect to the nationality of their children".		Para. 162
		<u>Argentina</u> <u>After</u> the words "The States Parties" <u>add</u> the words "where it applies		

-18-