

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1-6	4
I. THE CURRENT FUNCTIONING OF THE PROCEDURE	7-24	5
A. Mandate and practice	7-8	5
B. The nature of communications submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women	9-14	5
C. The sources of communications	15-18	6
D. The number of communications submitted to the Commission	19	7
E. The role of the Working Group of the Commission ...	20-21	7
F. The identification of patterns and recommendations made to the Commission and the Council	22-24	8
II. THE PROBLEMS WITH THE EXISTING COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE	25-76	9
A. The efficiency of the mechanism	25-30	9
B. The adequacy of the procedure as a source of information for policy-making	31-33	10
C. The information supplied by the specialized agencies	34-35	10
D. The issues covered under the mandate	36-45	11
E. The level of knowledge of the procedure	46-49	12
F. The problems arising in the work of the Working Group	50-65	13
G. The avoidance of duplication in the consideration of communications between different bodies	66-70	16
H. The inclusion of communications on the Commission's agenda on an annual basis	71-72	17
I. The relationship between the work of the Commission and the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	73-75	17
J. The confidential nature of the procedure	76	18
III. THE NATURE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE PRESENT PROCEDURE ...	77-94	18
A. The types of communications procedure: complaint- information and complaint-recourse functions	78-88	18
B. The comparison of the present procedure with the mechanisms available under the Commission on Human Rights	89-94	20
IV. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES UNDER WHICH COMMUNICA- TIONS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN COULD BE CONSIDERED	95-135	21
A. Individual complaints procedures that cover sex discrimination	98-108	21
B. Other individual complaints procedures	109-110	24
C. Procedures of the International Labour Organisation	111-120	24
D. Other procedures (complaint-information procedures)	121-135	26

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
V. CONCLUSION: OPTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE PROCEDURE ..	136-156	28
A. Minor modifications of the existing procedure	138	29
B. Options involving greater changes in mandate or approach	139-156	29

Annexes

I. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relevant to mechanisms for communications on the status of women	34
II. Admissibility criteria for communications to be considered under Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII), as contained in Sub-Commission resolution 1 (XXIV)	37
<u>Table.</u> Communications included in the confidential lists since 1986 ...	7