



**International Convention on the
Protection of the Rights of
All Migrant Workers and
Members of Their Families**

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**Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All
Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**
Seventeenth session

Summary record of the second part (public)* of the 212th meeting**

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 14 September 2012, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Mr. El Jamri

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* No summary record was prepared for the first part (closed) of the meeting.

** No summary record was prepared for the 211th meeting.

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The public part of the meeting was called to order at 12.55 p.m.

Organizational matters

1. **The Chairperson** thanked all the members of the Committee for their proactive participation, which had enabled the Committee to achieve all the objectives it had set for its seventeenth session, a session devoted mainly to consideration of the periodic reports of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CMW/C/BIH/2) and Rwanda (CMW/C/RWA/1) and to the adoption of concluding observations relating thereto.
2. The Committee had also adopted a declaration in which it welcomed the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the strengthening of the treaty bodies (A/66/860) and associated itself with all the proposals contained therein, some of which it had already been implementing for some time. In line with its new working methods, the Committee had adopted a decision to be submitted to the Third Committee of the General Assembly in 2013, in which it requested authorization to hold two annual sessions of two weeks in order to consider the situation in at least nine States per year, pointing out that it had taken due note of the financial implications of that request.
3. The Committee had also adopted a communication on the Addis Ababa Guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies, in which it welcomed the approval of those Guidelines by the meeting of chairpersons of the treaty bodies and recalled that article 72 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families provided that the Committee should consist of experts “of high moral standing, impartiality and recognized competence in the field covered by the Convention”. Those guidelines would be considered at the eighteenth session of the Committee with a view to incorporation in its rules of procedure.
4. The Committee had also continued its discussion on general comment No. 2 on the rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation and members of their families, which was the outcome of the day of general discussion held at the fifteenth session of the Committee, in September 2011, with the participation of representatives of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and officials of the Research and Right To Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The Committee had held a meeting with 18 States parties to the Convention, during which it had submitted to them its timetable of work and its new working methods, including in particular the system for preparing the list of issues prior to the submission of a report and the procedure for review in the absence of a report. At that meeting, the States had undertaken to support the action of the Committee, which had stressed that States parties should promote ratification of the Convention in their region as well as in countries with which they maintained relations in the area of migration.
5. The Committee had held a meeting with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), at which the latter had expressed concern at the situation of migrant workers in Qatar, particularly those involved in the building of facilities for the football World Cup in 2022. A further topic of discussion had been the establishment of a permanent trade union platform in support of the work of the Committee, along the lines of the platform for non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
6. On the sidelines of the seventeenth session, the Bureau of the Committee had held two meetings with a view to improving the effectiveness of the discussions and the guidelines for conducting them. The aim was to enhance the arrangements for the Committee’s meetings, for example by having them preceded by meetings at which the experts would be grouped by region or by language group, as from the eighteenth session. He (the Chairperson) had also taken part in a videoconference on Thursday, 13 September,

at the African Civil Society Forum on Migration, Development and Human Rights, held in Accra on 12 and 13 September 2012, with a view to preparing the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which was to take place in Mauritius in November 2012.

7. The eighteenth session of the Committee would be held from 15 to 26 April 2012 and would be devoted to consideration of the second periodic reports of Colombia (CMW/C/COL/2), Bolivia (CMW/C/BOL/2) and Azerbaijan (CMW/C/AZE/2), as well as to the preparation of the list of issues relating to the initial report of Morocco (CMW/C/MAR/1), consideration of the situation in Uruguay, Belize and Ghana in the absence of initial reports, and the preparation of the list of issues prior to the submission of the report from Sri Lanka. The Committee would hold a day of general discussion on the statistics used in the preparation of migratory policies, with a view to heightening States' awareness of that issue and determining what tools they needed to produce statistics of that kind.

Closure of the session

8. After the customary exchange of courtesies, **the Chairperson** declared the seventeenth session of the Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.