Telephone Survey on Women's Knowledge of The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

July 2003

Equal Opportunities Commission

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Executive Summary

Findings

- 1. The general awareness level of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was low 67% of respondents had not heard of CEDAW when given only its title and no other description.
- 2. Amongst 33% of respondents who were aware of CEDAW when given only its title, those with the following demographic characteristics were more aware of CEDAW before being given its proper title and description:
 - Tertiary educational level (47%)
 - Students (44%)
 - Single (40%)
 - Aged 15-29 (39%)
- 3. Of respondents who were aware of CEDAW after being given its title and a description, 58% did not know or were unsure that CEDAW had been extended to Hong Kong. Sub-group analysis found that more respondents with the following demographic characteristics did not know or were unsure:
 - Monthly personal income of less than \$5,000 (78%)
 - Primary educational level or below (68%)
 - Aged 40 or above (66% for aged 40-49; 65% for aged 50-64)
 - Homemakers (60%)
- 4. More than half the respondents (56%) considered CEDAW to be very or quite relevant to them. More respondents who had heard of an international women's convention before being given its title and description considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (68%). Even among respondents who were unaware of CEDAW, a significant proportion considered it to be relevant to them (47%).
- 5. In each sub-group, a large percentage of respondents considered CEDAW to be relevant to them. In particular, respondents with the following demographic characteristics were more significantly represented:
 - Managers, administrators and professionals (69%)
 - Tertiary educational level (63%)
 - Single (63%)
 - Aged 20-29 (63%)
 - Students (57%)
- 6. A significant number of respondents (58%) wished to be consulted on how to implement CEDAW in Hong Kong. More respondents who had heard of an international women's convention before being given its title and description wished to be consulted on its implementation (67%). However, even among respondents who were unaware of CEDAW, a significant proportion wished to be consulted on its implementation (53%).
- 7. In each sub-group, a large percentage of respondents wished to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW. In particular, respondents with the following demographic characteristics were more significantly represented:

- Monthly personal income of \$15,000 or above (76%)
- Managers, administrators and professionals (74%)
- Associate professionals (71%)
- Tertiary educational level (71%)
- Aged 30-39 (68%)
- Married, separated, divorced or widowed with youngest child at age 12 or below (64%)
- Monthly household income of \$25,000 or above (64%)
- Students (60%)
- 8. When asked for their top three current concerns as women, respondents cited the following the most: career, family, children, Hong Kong society, own health and own studies. Irrespective of the different awareness levels of CEDAW, the top three concerns for each sub-group were almost identical to the overall response.
- 9. More than two-thirds of respondents (71%) either did not know or did not think the Government had formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six year. Sub group analysis found that a higher percentage of homemakers (74%) did not think the Government had such policies or measures.

Recommendations

- 10. To increase the awareness level of CEDAW amongst women in Hong Kong, the Government should adopt systematic and structured approaches to promote CEDAW. For example, the Government should identify areas where more promotion should be targeted; identify issues where more consultation should be conducted as well as to explore other appropriate consultation mechanisms.
- 11. The Government should provide more information, such as sex-disaggregated data and periodic progress reports, on the implementation of CEDAW, to increase public understanding of the status of women in Hong Kong and to facilitate women's participation in meaningful dialogues with policy-makers. Progress reports on the implementation of CEDAW should be provided to the wider public on an annual basis.
- 12. The Government should comprehensively review its work on women to assess whether women's needs and concerns are being adequately met and addressed, and to pursue gender-related policies and measures that help promote the status of women in Hong Kong.

1. Background

- 1.1 In December 2002, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) commissioned Oracle Market Research to conduct a telephone survey on Hong Kong women's awareness level of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- 1.2 Extended to Hong Kong in October 1996, CEDAW is an international treaty on women's rights that seeks the advancement of women and establishes rights for women in areas not previously subject to international standards.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the survey were:
 - a) to assess the extent of women's knowledge of CEDAW; and
 - b) to gauge respondents' key concerns as women.

3. Methodology

Target Respondents

3.1 Female individuals in Hong Kong aged 15 to 64.

Data Collection Method

- 3.2 Data were collected through telephone interviews using a structured questionnaire.
- 3.3 A pilot study was conducted before the actual survey to test the practicability of the questionnaire. The questionnaire is annexed to this report.

Sampling Method

- 3.4 A random sample of telephone numbers was drawn from the Residential Telephone Directory 2001 published by Pacific Century CyberWorks (PCCW) and telephone calls were made to the selected households. A female individual aged 15 to 64 (excluding domestic helper) was selected from each of these households for interview.
- 3.5 To avoid the sample being skewed, quota control was employed on the age profile of respondents to ensure that the number of successful interviews achieved in each pre-defined age group was proportional to the population distribution.

Quality Control

3.6 Measures, such as intensive training, debriefing sessions, and close monitoring by supervisors, were taken to ensure that the survey results were of high quality.

3.7 About 20% of the completed questionnaires were verified by independent checkers through telephone contact with respondents. Any completed questionnaires that were in doubt were discarded and followed by replacement interviews.

Results of Enumeration

3.8 Fieldwork was conducted between 10 to 23 December 2002. A total of 1,528 female individuals aged 15 to 64 were successfully interviewed, representing a response rate of 41.1%. Details of the enumeration results are as follows:

Table 1 – Enumeration Results

a.	Total number of telephone numbers drawn	10,040
b.	Inaccessible cases ¹	4,207
c.	Non-target cases ²	2,111
d.	Unsuccessful cases ³	2,194
e.	Successful interviews	1,528
	Response rate [e/(d+e)]	41.1%

Comprised: invalid telephone numbers (e.g. continuous dialling tone, dead line, telephone block requiring private access code, fax line, non-residential number); unable to communicate with respondent; unable to contact household upon three call attempts at different times on different days.

3.9 This sample size produced statistically reliable data at 95% significance level.

Data Analysis

- 3.10 Data collected in the survey have been weighted to arrive at estimations, which represent the overall profile of female individuals aged 15 to 64 in Hong Kong.
- 3.11 Significance test was performed where appropriate to examine the significance of differences among subgroups. Subgroup differences highlighted in this report are statistically significant at 95% confidence interval.

Rounding of Figures

3.12 Figures presented in the tables in this report have been rounded up and may not add up to exact totals.

² Comprised: households with no eligible respondents; households with eligible respondents but assigned quota was full.

³ Comprised: households contacted but unable to contact the respondents; refusals.

4. General Profile of Respondents

4.1 Table 2 provides a general profile of respondents by socio-economic characteristics.

4.2 In summary:

- 30% of respondents were single.
- Amongst the 70% respondents who were married, separated, divorced or widowed, the majority (about 90%) had children.
- 61% of respondents had attained secondary educational level.
- 47% of respondents were working persons, mainly employed as associated professionals, clerks or secretaries. Nearly half (47%) of these respondents earned less than HK\$10,000 a month.
- The biggest economically inactive group was homemakers (38%), followed by students (11%).
- 43% of respondents lived in private housing while 37% in pubic housing.
- More than half (53%) of the respondents' monthly household income were less than HK\$20,000.

Table 2 – Respondents' profile

Age	
15-19	8%
20-29	20%
30-39	28%
40-49	25%
50-64	19%
Marital status and Age of Youngest Child	
Single	30%
Married, separated, divorced or widowed	
no children	5%
youngest child aged 12 or less	34%
youngest child aged 13 - 17	9%
youngest child aged 18 or over	21%
Educational level	
Primary or below	21%
Secondary	61%
Tertiary	18%

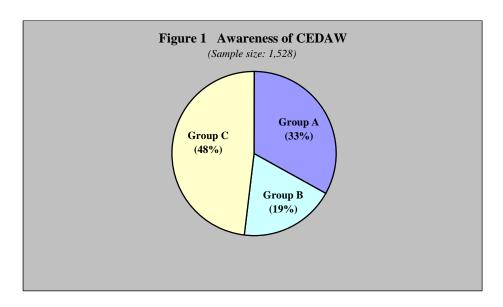
Economic activity status/ occupation	
Employed	47%
Corporate Director/ Managers/ 5%	1770
Professionals/ Traders/ Proprietors	
Trotessionals/ Traders/ Trophetors	
Associate professionals/ Clerks/ 27%	
Secretaries	
Secretaries	
Service Workers/ Sales Workers 7%	
Service Workers/ Sales Workers //%	
Decoration or Handcraft or Factory 8%	
Workers/ Plant & Machine Operators	
or Assemblers/ Drivers/ Elementary	
Occupations	
Occupations	
Unemployed	4%
Homemakers	38%
Students	11%
Housing type	11/0
Public Housing	37%
Home Ownership Scheme/ Sandwich Class	17%
<u> </u>	43%
Private Housing Others	2%
Not known (respondents declined to answer)	1%
Monthly personal income (working persons only)	13%
Less than 5K	
5K - <8K	20%
8K - <10K	14%
10K - <15K	23%
15K - <20K	11%
20K - <30K	10%
30K or above	7%
Not known (respondents declined to answer)	2%
Median HK\$10,419	
Monthly household income	
Less than 8K	11%
8K - <12.5K	20%
12.5K - <20K	22%
20K - <30K	20%
30K - <40K	10%
40K - <50K	5%
50K or above	8%
Not known (respondents did not know / declined to	4%
answer)	
Median HK\$18,064	

5. Key Findings

5.1 Awareness and Knowledge of CEDAW

Awareness of CEDAW

a) Of all respondents, 67% were not aware of CEDAW when given only its title and no other description. (Figure 1)

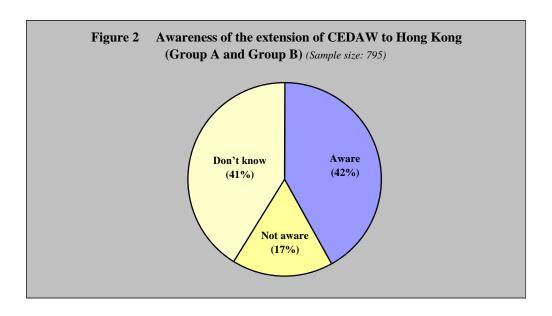


Groups A, B and C represent the following respondents:

- Group A: Respondents who had heard of CEDAW when given only its title and no other description.
- Group B: Respondents who had heard of CEDAW when given both the title and a description of CEDAW.
- Group C: Respondents who had not heard of CEDAW when given both the title and a description of CEDAW.

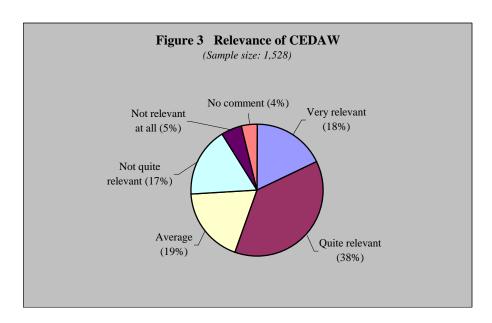
Awareness of the Extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong

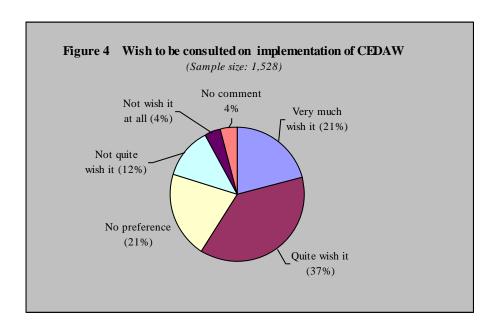
b) Of respondents who had heard of CEDAW (Groups A and B), 58% were not sure or did not know that CEDAW had been extended to Hong Kong. (Figure 2)



Relevance of CEDAW to Respondents

c) Of all respondents, 56% considered CEDAW to be very or quite relevant to them (Figure 3). 58% wanted to be consulted on how to implement it and only 4% did not wish to be consulted at all. (Figure 4)





- d) More respondents from Group A considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (68% compared with overall 56%) and wished to be consulted on its implementation (67% compared with the overall 58%). (Tables 3 & 4)
- e) It is noteworthy that even among Group C respondents who were not aware of CEDAW, a significant proportion considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (47%) and wished to be consulted on its implementation (53%). (Tables 3 & 4)

Table 3 – Relevance of CEDAW

Table 5 Relevance of CED/111				
	Overall	Group A	Group B	Group C
Very relevant	18%	24%	15%	14%
Quite relevant	38%	44%	39%	33%
Average	19%	15%	22%	20%
Not quite relevant	17%	13%	18%	20%
Not relevant at all	5%	3%	3%	7%
No comment	4%	1%	3%	7%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(500)	(295)	(733)

Table 4 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW

	Overall	Group A	Group B	Group C
Very much wish it	21%	26%	20%	19%
Quite wish it	37%	41%	41%	34%
No preference	21%	17%	24%	23%
Not quite wish it	12%	11%	8%	13%
Not wish it at all	4%	3%	4%	6%
No comment	4%	2%	3%	6%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(500)	(295)	(733)

5.2 Key Concerns as Women

a) Respondents were asked to indicate their top three current concerns as women. Career, family, children, Hong Kong society, own health and own study were the concerns raised most by respondents. (Table 5)

Table 5 – Key concerns as women

Major areas of concern	Issues raised by respondents
Career (50%)	 Job stability
	 Employment opportunities
	 Salary cut/ more difficult to earn money
	Work stress
	 Career prospect
Family (48%)	 Family members' health
	 Relationship with family members
	 Family members' job stability
	 Family members' financial status
Children (28%)	 Children's studies
	 Children's conduct
	 Children's job stability
Hong Kong society	 Not optimistic about economic growth
(27%)	 Security might worsen
	 Loss of freedom and respect for human rights
	 Poor education system
	 High medical fee
	Property price which might affect standard of
	living
0 1 1/1 (220/)	Whether Government could make life better
Own health (23%)	
Own study (7%)	
Relationship with friends (4%)	
Whether women's rights	
were undermined by sex	
discrimination (2%)	

⁽⁾ denotes percentage of respondents who had raised the issue as one of their top three concerns.

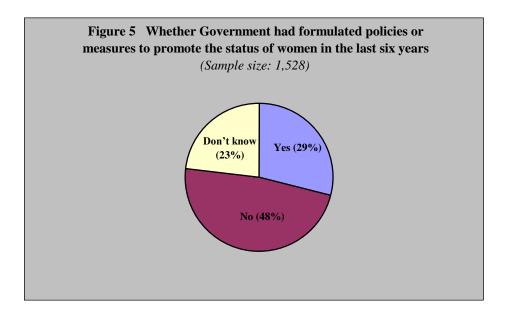
b) Top three concerns raised by respondents in Groups A, B and C were almost identical to the overall response. (Table 6)

Table 6 – Top three key concerns as women

	Overall	Group A	Group B	Group C
First	Career	Career	Career	Career
	(50%)	(49%)	(51%)	(50%)
Second	Family	Family	Family	Family
	(48%)	(46%)	(49%)	(48%)
Third	Children	HK society	Children	Children
	(28%)	(29%)	(32%)	(27%)

5.3 Government's Work on Promoting the Status of Women

a) 71% of respondents either did not know or thought the Government had not formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. (Figure 5).



b) Of the respondents who thought the Government had formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years, a larger number of them were aware of CEDAW (Groups A and B). (Table 7)

Table 7 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years

	Overall	Group A	Group B	Group C
Yes	29%	35%	37%	21%
No	48%	47%	43%	51%
Don't Know	23%	18%	20%	28%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(500)	(295)	(733)

6. Subgroup Analysis

6.1 Homemakers

- a) Of all respondents, 38% (587) were homemakers.
- b) 73% of homemakers were not aware of CEDAW if no description were given (Groups B and C). For those who had heard of CEDAW (Groups A and B), 60% were not sure or did not know that CEDAW had been extended to Hong Kong. (Tables 8 & 9)

Table 8 – (Homemakers) Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW

	Overall	Homemakers
Group A	33%	27%
Group B	19%	24%
Group C	48%	49%
Sample	size: (1,528)	(587)

Table 9 – (Homemakers) Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong (Groups A and B)

	Overall	Homemakers
Yes	42%	40%
No	17%	16%
Don't know	41%	44%
Sample size:	(795)	(301)

c) Nearly half the homemakers (48%) considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (Table 10) and slightly more (55%) wished to be consulted on its implementation (Table 11).

Table 10 - (Homemakers) Relevance of CEDAW

	Overall	Homemakers
Very relevant	18%	16%
Quite relevant	38%	32%
Average	19%	21%
Not quite relevant	17%	19%
Not relevant at all	5%	5%
No comment	4%	6%
Sample size	(1,528)	(587)

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Table 11-(Homemakers) Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW \end{tabular}$

	Overall	Homemakers
Very much wish it	21%	21%
Quite wish it	37%	34%
No preference	21%	23%
Not quite wish it	12%	11%
Not wish it at all	4%	5%
No comment	4%	6%
Sample size	(1,528)	(587)

- d) Homemakers' top three concerns as women were:
 - (i) Family (56%): included concerns about family members'

health, and their job stability and financial

status:

(ii) Children (44%): included concerns about children's studies and

their conduct; and

(iii) Career (30%): included concerns about employment

opportunities and salary cut.

e) Most homemakers (74%) either did not know or thought the Government had not formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. Only 27% thought the Government had such policies or measures. (Table 12)

Table 12 – (Homemakers) Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years

		Overall	Homemakers
Yes		29%	27%
No		48%	46%
Don't know		23%	28%
	Sample size	(1,528)	(587)

6.2 Students

- a) Of all respondents, 11% (165) were students.
- b) 56% of students were not aware of CEDAW if no description were given (Groups B and C). For those who had heard of CEDAW (Groups A and B), 42% were not sure or did not know that CEDAW had been extended to Hong Kong. (Tables 13 & 14))

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Table 13-(Students) Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW \end{tabular}$

	Overall	Students
Group A	33%	44%
Group B	19%	14%
Group C	48%	42%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(165)

Table 14 – (Students) Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong (Groups A and B)

	Overall	Students
Yes	42%	58%
No	17%	18%
Don't know	41%	24%
Sample size:	(795)	(95)

c) More than half the students (57%) considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (Table 15) and slightly more (60%) wished to be consulted on its implementation. (Table 16)

Table 15 - (Students) Relevance of CEDAW

	Overall	Students
Very relevant	18%	15%
Quite relevant	38%	42%
Average	19%	19%
Not quite relevant	17%	18%
Not relevant at all	5%	5%
No comment	4%	2%
Sample size	(1,528)	(165)

Table 16 – (Students) Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW

	Overall	Students
Very much wish it	21%	22%
Quite wish it	37%	38%
No preference	21%	19%
Not quite wish it	12%	14%
Not wish it at all	4%	5%
No comment	4%	2%
Sample size	(1,528)	(165)

- d) Students' top three concerns as women were:
 - (i) Own studies (57%)

(ii) Family (44%): included concerns about relationship with

family members and their health; and

(iii) Career (32%): included concerns about employment

opportunities and career prospect.

e) Almost two-thirds students (63%) either did not know or thought the Government had not formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. Just over one-third (38%) thought the Government had such policies or measures. (Table 17)

Table 17 – (Students) Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years

	Overall	Students
Yes	29%	38%
No	48%	39%
Don't know	23%	24%
Sample size	(1,528)	(165)

6.3 Sub-group Analysis by Age

- a) Analysis by age shows there is a higher percentage of respondents aged 15-29 who had heard of CEDAW when given only its title and no other description (39%) (Group A) and who knew that CEDAW had been extended to Hong Kong (51% and 52%). (Tables 18 & 19) There is also a higher percentage of respondents aged 20-29 who considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (63%). (Table 20)
- b) A higher percentage of respondents aged 30-39 wished to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (68%). (Table 21)
- c) Across all age groups, older respondents were comparatively less aware of the extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong: 34% for aged 40-49 and 35% for aged 50-64. Similarly, there are fewer respondents aged 50-64 who considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (44%) or wished to be consulted on its implementation (49%). (Tables 19 21)

Table 18 – Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by age

	Overall	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64
Group A	33%	39%	39%	34%	30%	25%
Group B	19%	11%	17%	17%	23%	23%
Group C	48%	49%	44%	49%	47%	51%
Sample size	: (1,528)	(132)	(298)	(424)	(390)	(284)

Table19 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by age (Groups A and B)

(Groups A and B)									
	Overall	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64			
Yes	42%	51%	52%	45%	34%	35%			
No	17%	19%	14%	16%	20%	16%			
Don't know	41%	30%	34%	39%	46%	49%			
Sample size:	(795)	(67)	(166)	(217)	(207)	(138)			

Table 20 - Relevance of CEDAW by age

Tuble 20 Refevance of		by age				
	Overall	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64
Very relevant	18%	14%	20%	21%	16%	13%
Quite relevant	38%	41%	43%	40%	35%	31%
Average	19%	18%	18%	16%	22%	19%
Not quite relevant	17%	20%	11%	17%	17%	21%
Not relevant at all	5%	4%	5%	4%	4%	8%
No comment	4%	2%	2%	2%	6%	8%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(132)	(298)	(424)	(390)	(284)

Table 21 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by age

8-						
	Overall	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64
Very much wish it	21%	23%	21%	23%	20%	20%
Quite wish it	37%	37%	41%	45%	33%	29%
No preference	21%	17%	22%	16%	26%	23%
Not quite wish it	12%	15%	11%	12%	9%	13%
Not wish it at all	4%	4%	3%	3%	6%	6%
No comment	4%	4%	3%	2%	5%	7%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(132)	(298)	(424)	(390)	(284)

d) Respondents in various age groups indicated their top three concerns as follows:

Aged 15-19

- Own studies (61%);
- Family (45%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Career (29%): included concerns about employment opportunities, salary cut and career prospect.

Aged 20-29

- Career (70%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities, salary cut and career prospect;
- Family (44%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (22%).

Aged 30-39

- Career (53%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (50%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health and job stability; and
- Children (38%): mainly concerning children's studies.

Aged 40-49

- Family (48%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their job stability and financial status;
- Children (46%): included concerns about children's studies and their conduct; and
- Career (45%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut.

Aged 50-64

- Family (50%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their job stability and financial status;
- Career (39%): included concerns about employment opportunities and salary cut; and

- Hong Kong society (36%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.
- e) Age did not affect respondents' perception of whether the Government had formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. However, it is interesting to note that there were slightly more respondents in the youngest age group, 15-19 years, who thought the Government did have such policies or measures. (Table 22)

Table 22 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by age

		Overall	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64
Yes		29%	36%	28%	29%	28%	26%
No		48%	40%	50%	50%	52%	44%
Don't know		23%	24%	22%	21%	20%	31%
	Sample size:	(1,528)	(132)	(298)	(424)	(390)	(284)

- 6.4 Sub-group Analysis by Educational Level
 - a) Of all respondents, 61% had attained secondary educational level.
 - b) More of Group A respondents who had attained tertiary educational level were aware of CEDAW (47%) and of its extension to Hong Kong (55%); considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (63%) and wished to be consulted on its implementation (71%). (Tables 23-26)
 - c) Respondents whose educational level was primary or below were less aware of CEDAW and 54% had never heard of CEDAW even after a description was given (Group C). For those who had heard of CEDAW (Groups A and B), only 32% were aware of its extension to Hong Kong. Fewer of them considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (43%) and wished to be consulted on its implementation (51%). (Tables 23-26)

Table 23 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by educational level

		Overall	Primary or Below	Secondary	Tertiary
Group A		33%	22%	32%	47%
Group B		19%	24%	20%	12%
Group C		48%	54%	48%	41%
	Sample size:	(1,528)	(324)	(929)	(274)

Table 24 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by educational level (Groups A and B)

	Overall	Primary or Below	Secondary	Tertiary
Yes	42%	32%	41%	55%
No	17%	17%	19%	12%
Don't know	41%	51%	40%	33%
Sample size:	(795)	(148)	(485)	(161)

Table 25 – Relevance of CEDAW by educational level

	Overall	Primary or Below	Secondary	Tertiary
Very relevant	18%	13%	19%	20%
Quite relevant	38%	30%	39%	43%
Average	19%	22%	18%	19%
Not quite relevant	17%	19%	18%	12%
Not relevant at all	5%	6%	4%	5%
No comment	4%	11%	3%	1%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(324)	(929)	(274)

Table 26 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by educational level

	Overall	Primary or Below	Secondary	Tertiary
Very much wish it	21%	19%	20%	28%
Quite wish it	37%	32%	38%	43%
No preference	21%	25%	20%	19%
Not quite wish it	12%	10%	14%	7%
Not wish it at all	4%	6%	4%	3%
No comment	4%	8%	4%	1%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(324)	(929)	(274)

d) Respondents with various educational backgrounds indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

Primary or below

- Family (49%): included concerns about their health, financial status and job stability;
- Career (40%): included concerns about employment opportunities, job stability and salary cut; and
- Children (38%): included concerns about children's studies and their conduct.

Secondary

- Career (51%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (48%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health and job stability; and
- Children (28%): mainly concerning children's studies.

Tertiary

- Career (57%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and career prospect;
- Family (46%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (29%).

e) Similar to the observation in sub-group analysis by age, educational attainment levels did not affect respondents' perception of the Government's work in promoting the status of women in the last six years. (Table 27)

Table 27 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by educational level

	Overall	Primary or Below	Secondary	Tertiary
Yes	29%	27%	29%	29%
No	48%	40%	50%	53%
Don't know	23%	33%	21%	18%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(324)	(929)	(274)

- 6.5 Sub-group Analysis by Marital Status and Age of Youngest Child
 - a) Of all respondents, 30% were single, and 34% were married, separated, divorced or widowed with youngest child aged 12 or below.
 - b) Single persons were more aware of CEDAW when given only its title and no other description (40%). In addition, a higher proportion of them considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (63%). (Tables 28 & 30)
 - c) Among respondents who were married, separated, divorced or widowed, more of those whose youngest child was 12 or below wanted to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (64%). (Table 31)
 - d) Among respondents who were married, separated, divorced or widowed, a lower percentage of those whose youngest child was 13 years or above wanted to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (50%) and considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (48%). (Tables 30-31)

Table 28 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by marital status and age of youngest child

Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed Overall Single Age of Youngest Child No Child 12 or below 13 to 17 18 or over 33% 40% 28% 32% 29% 26% Group A 19% 27% Group B 15% 21% 18% 24% Group C 48% 44% 45% 51% 50% 50% Sample size: (1,528)(459)(522)(140)(326)(81)

Table 29 - Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by

marital status and age of voungest child (Groups A and B)

	Overall	Single	Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed					
			No	Age of	Youngest	Child		
			Child	12 or below	18 or over			
Yes	42%	48%	43%	42%	38%	37%		
No	17%	18%	17%	18%	18%	14%		
Don't know	41%	34%	40%	41%	44%	49%		
Sample size:	(795)	(253)	(40 #)	(259)	(79)	(164)		

[#] small base

Table 30 - Relevance of CEDAW by marital status and age of

voungest child

	Overall	Age o	Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed				
			of Younges	t Child			
			No Child		13 to 17	18 or over	
Very relevant	18%	18%	15%	19%	16%	15%	
Quite relevant	38%	45%	36%	36%	32%	33%	
Average	19%	16%	26%	20%	17%	19%	
Not quite relevant	17%	15%	11%	17%	21%	21%	
Not relevant at all	5%	4%	10%	3%	5%	6%	
No comment	4%	2%	2%	4%	8%	6%	
Sample size:	(1,528)	(459)	(81)	(522)	(140)	(326)	

Table 31 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by

marital status and age of voungest child

	Overall	Single	Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed						
			No	Age	of Younges	f Youngest Child			
			Child	12 or below	13 to 17	18 or over			
Very much wish it	21%	21%	17%	24%	19%	20%			
Quite wish it	37%	41%	40%	40%	31%	30%			
No preference	21%	21%	27%	17%	25%	25%			
Not quite wish it	12%	12%	6%	12%	12%	11%			
Not wish it at all	4%	3%	6%	3%	4%	8%			
No comment	4%	2%	4%	3%	9%	6%			
Sample size:	(1,528)	(459)	(81)	(522)	(140)	(326)			

e) Respondents of various marital status and family compositions indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

Single

- Career (62%): included concerns about job stability, salary cut and employment opportunities;
- Family (45%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (23%) and own studies (23%).

Not single – without children

Career (74%): included concerns about job stability, salary cut and employment opportunities;

- Family (48%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (27%).

Not single – youngest child aged 12 or less

- Family (53%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health, job stability and financial status;
- Children (52%): mainly concerning children's studies; and
- Career (43%): included concerns about job stability and employment opportunities.

Not single – youngest child aged 13 to 17

- Family (53%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health, job stability and financial status;
- Children (52%): included concerns about children's studies and their conduct; and
- Career (42%): included concerns about job stability and employment opportunities.

Not single – youngest child aged 18 or above

- Family (49%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health and job stability;
- Career (41%): included concerns about job stability, salary cut and employment opportunities; and
- Hong Kong society (35%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.
- f) Overall speaking, marital status and age of youngest child did not affect respondents' perception of the Government's work in promoting the status of women in the last six years although there was a slightly higher percentage of single persons who thought the Government had such policies or measures. (Table 32)

Table 32 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by marital status and age of youngest child

	Overall	Single	Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed					
			No	Age of	Youngest	st Child		
			Child	12 or below	13 to 17	18 or over		
Yes	29%	31%	23%	27%	28%	30%		
No	48%	49%	54%	49%	49%	44%		
Don't know	23%	20%	22%	24%	23%	26%		
Sample size:	(1,528)	(459)	(81)	(522)	(140)	(326)		

6.6 Sub-group Analysis by Occupation

a) For sub-group analysis, occupations were grouped as follows:

group a — Managers, Administrator and Professionals

group b – Associated Professionals

group c – Clerks and Secretaries

group d – Services, Shop Sales Workers

group e – Craft related worker / Plant & Machine Operators /

Elementary Occupations

- b) Data shows that more managers, administrators and professionals (group a) considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (69%) and wished to be consulted on its implementation (74%). (Tables 35-36)
- c) There was also a higher proportion of associate professionals (group b) who wished to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (71%). (Table 36)
- d) In contrast, a lower percentage of craft and related workers, plant and machine operators and assemblers, and those in elementary occupations considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (group e) (43%). (Table 35)

Table 33 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by occupation

	Overall	a	b	c	d	е
Group A	33%	37%	39%	36%	30%	26%
Group B	19%	12%	11%	19%	17%	23%
Group C	48%	51%	50%	45%	52%	50%
Sample size	: (1,528)	(76)	(142)	(265)	(109)	(119)

Table 34 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by occupation (Groups A and B)

	Overall	a	b	С	d	е
Yes	42%	49%	44%	39%	39%	32%
No	17%	14%	22%	14%	21%	17%
Don't know	41%	38%	34%	46%	40%	51%
Sample size:	(795)	(37#)	(71)	(145)	(52)	(59)

[#]Small base

Table 35 – Relevance of CEDAW by occupation

Table 35 – Relevance of CEDA W by occupation									
	Overall	a	b	c	d	e			
Very relevant	18%	24%	25%	16%	22%	13%			
Quite relevant	38%	45%	39%	44%	41%	30%			
Average	19%	13%	20%	14%	17%	18%			
Not quite relevant	17%	12%	11%	18%	16%	23%			
Not relevant at all	5%	7%	3%	4%	-	7%			
No comment	4%	-	1%	3%	4%	8%			
Sample size:	(1,528)	(76)	(142)	(265)	(109)	(119)			

Table 36 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by occupation

	Overall	a	b	c	d	e
Very much wish it	21%	29%	26%	18%	19%	19%
Quite wish it	37%	45%	45%	44%	39%	31%
No preference	21%	16%	18%	18%	24%	27%
Not quite wish it	12%	8%	8%	14%	11%	10%
Not wish it at all	4%	1%	3%	3%	3%	8%
No comment	4%	1%	-	3%	4%	5%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(76)	(142)	(265)	(109)	(119)

e) Respondents in various occupation groups indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

Managers, Administrators, Professionals (a)

- Career (61%): included concerns about job stability, salary cut and work stress;
- Family (45%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Hong Kong society (34%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

Associate Professionals (b)

- Career (78%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities, salary cut, career prospect and work stress;
- Family (50%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (23%).

Clerk/Secretaries (c)

- Career (71%): included concerns about job stability and salary cut;
- Family (44%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Hong Kong society (28%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

Service/shop sales workers (d)

- Career (65%): included concerns about job stability and salary cut;
- Family (39%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (26%).

<u>Craft related worker/plant & machine operators/elementary</u> occupations (e)

- Career (55%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (41%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their job stability and financial status; and
- Children (34%): mainly concerning children's studies.

f) Overall, occupation was a factor that affected respondents' perception of the Government's work in promoting the status of women in the last six year. (Table 37)

Table 37 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by occupation

	Overall	a	b	С	d	e
Yes	29%	29%	30%	28%	30%	27%
No	48%	47%	56%	57%	48%	44%
Don't know	23%	24%	14%	15%	22%	29%
Sample siz	e: (1,528)	(76)	(142)	(265)	(109)	(119)

- 6.7 Sub-group Analysis by Monthly Personal Income
 - a) Of all respondents, 47% were working persons and their median monthly personal income was HK\$10,419.
 - b) The data shows that more respondents with higher monthly personal incomes, i.e. \$15,000 or above, wished to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (76%). (Table 41)
 - c) Respondents whose monthly personal incomes were less than \$5,000 were least aware of the extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong (22%) compared with other income groups. (Table 39)

Table 38 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by monthly personal income

	Overall	<\$5K	\$5K -<\$8K	\$8K -<15K	\$15K+
Group A	33%	33%	27%	35%	38%
Group B	19%	15%	21%	19%	13%
Group C	48%	52%	52%	46%	48%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(96)	(141)	(267)	(200)

Table 39 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by monthly personal income (Groups A and B)

	Overall	<\$5K	\$5K - <\$8K	\$8K - <15K	\$15K+
Yes	42%	22%	34%	41%	50%
No	17%	24%	21%	15%	15%
Don't know	41%	54%	45%	44%	36%
Sample size:	(795)	$(46^{\#})$	(68)	(144)	103)

[#]Small base

Table 40 – Relevance of CEDAW by monthly personal income

	Overall	<\$5K	\$5K - <\$8K	\$8K - <15K	\$15K+
Very relevant	18%	16%	21%	19%	19%
Quite relevant	38%	34%	36%	43%	43%
Average	19%	15%	16%	16%	18%
Not quite relevant	17%	20%	16%	17%	15%
Not relevant at all	5%	6%	5%	2%	4%
No comment	4%	9%	6%	1%	1%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(96)	(141)	(267)	(200)

Table 41 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by monthly personal income

	Overall	<\$5K	\$5K - <\$8K	\$8K - <15K	\$15K+
Very much wish it	21%	17%	19%	18%	29%
Quite wish it	37%	36%	38%	41%	47%
No preference	21%	22%	23%	22%	14%
Not quite wish it	12%	14%	13%	13%	7%
Not wish it at all	4%	5%	4%	4%	1%
No comment	4%	6%	4%	2%	1%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(96)	(141)	(267)	(200)

d) Respondents with various monthly personal income levels indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

Less than \$5K

- Career (54%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (40%): included concerns about family members' health, job stability and financial status; and
- Children (33%): mainly concerning children's studies.

\$5K - < \$8K

- Career (70%): included concerns about job stability and salary cut;
- Family (37%): included concerns about family members' health and job stability; and
- Hong Kong society (27%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

8K - < 15K

- Career (73%): included concerns about job stability and salary cut;
- Family (45%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (26%).

\$15K+

- Career (67%): included concerns about job stability, salary cut and work stress;
- Family (50%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Own health (28%).

e) Overall, monthly personal income levels did not affect respondents' perception of the Government's work in promoting the status of women in the last six years, but there were more respondents on higher incomes, i.e. \$15,000 or above, who thought the Government had such policies or measures. (Table 42)

Table 42 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by monthly personal income

	Overall	<\$5K	\$5K - <\$8K	\$8K - <15K	\$15K+
Yes	29%	27%	27%	28%	32%
No	48%	46%	50%	56%	50%
Don't know	23%	27%	23%	15%	18%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(96)	(141)	(267)	(200)

- 6.8 Sub-group Analysis by Monthly Household Income
 - a) Median monthly household income of all respondents was HK\$18,064.
 - b) Across different household income groups, there were fewer respondents in the lower income group, i.e. less than \$10,000, who considered CEDAW to be relevant to them (49%). (Table 45)
 - c) Conversely, more respondents with higher levels of monthly household income, i.e. \$25,000 or above, wished to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW (64%). (Table 46)

Table 43 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by monthly household income

	Overall	<\$10K	\$10K - <\$15K	\$15K - <\$25K	\$25K+
Group A	33%	24%	29%	34%	37%
Group B	19%	22%	23%	19%	17%
Group C	48%	54%	48%	47%	46%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(285)	(312)	(405)	(472)

Table 44 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by monthly household income (Groups A and B)

	Overall	<\$10K	\$10K - <\$15K	\$15K - <\$25K	\$25K+
Yes	42%	36%	36%	46%	48%
No	17%	21%	17%	16%	16%
Don't know	41%	43%	47%	37%	37%
Sample size:	(795)	(132)	(163)	(214)	(256)

Table 45 – Relevance of CEDAW by monthly household income

	Overall	<\$10K	\$10K -	\$10K - \$15K -		
			<\$15K	<\$25K		
Very relevant	18%	20%	16%	15%	20%	
Quite relevant	38%	29%	38%	40%	40%	
Average	19%	17%	18%	20%	19%	
Not quite relevant	17%	19%	17%	17%	17%	
Not relevant at all	5%	5%	7%	4%	3%	
No comment	4%	9%	3%	3%	2%	
Sample size:	(1,528)	(285)	(312)	(405)	(472)	

Table 46 – Wish to be consulted on CEDAW by monthly household income

	Overall	<\$10K	\$10K - <\$15K	\$15K - <\$25K	\$25K+
Very much wish it	21%	25%	19%	19%	24%
Quite wish it	37%	30%	38%	41%	40%
No preference	21%	22%	22%	19%	19%
Not quite wish it	12%	12%	12%	14%	10%
Not wish it at all	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%
No comment	4%	7%	4%	3%	3%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(285)	(312)	(405)	(472)

d) Respondents with various monthly household income levels indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

<\$10K

- Career (48%): included concerns about employment opportunities, job stability and salary cut;
- Family (45%): included concerns about family members' health, financial status and job stability; and
- Children (31%): mainly concerning children's studies.

10K - < 15K

- Career (49%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (46%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health, job stability and financial status; and
- Children (33%): mainly concerning children's studies.

\$15K - <\$25K

- Family (49%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health and job stability;
- Career (47%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut; and
- Children (28%): mainly concerning children's studies.

\$25K +

 Career (55%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;

- Family (49%): included concerns about relationship with family members and their health; and
- Hong Kong society (28%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.
- e) Monthly household income levels did not affect respondents' perception of the Government's work in promoting the status of women in the last six years, but it appeared that the higher monthly household income, the greater the number of respondents who thought the Government had such policies or measures. (Table 47)

Table 47 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in last six years by monthly household income

	Overall	<\$10K	\$10K - <\$15K	\$15K - <\$25K	\$25K+
Yes	29%	25%	27%	32%	30%
No	48%	42%	48%	48%	53%
Don't know	23%	33%	26%	21%	17%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(285)	(312)	(405)	(472)

6.9 Sub-group Analysis by Housing Type

- a) Of all respondents, 43% lived in private housing and 36% in public housing.
- b) Types of housing did not affect respondents' overall responses in this survey. It is noted that there was a higher percentage of respondents living in quarter who thought the Government had formulated policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. As the sample size was very small, it may not be sufficient to draw any conclusion in this respect.

Table 48 –Percentage of respondents who were aware of CEDAW by housing type

	Overall	Public	HOS/	Private	Quarter
		Housing /	Sandwich		
		Squatter	Class		
Group A	33%	29%	36%	34%	41%
Group B	19%	21%	19%	17%	26%
Group C	48%	47%	45%	49%	33%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(572)	(257)	(662)	(27##)

^{##} very small base

Table 49 – Awareness of extension of CEDAW to Hong Kong by

housing type (Groups A and B)

	Overall	Public	HOS/	Private	Quarter
		Housing /	Sandwich		
		Squatter	Class		
Yes	42%	41%	42%	43%	61%
No	17%	17%	15%	18%	11%
Don't know	41%	42%	43%	39%	28%
Sample size:	(795)	(290)	(142)	(339)	(18##)

^{##} very small base

Table 50 – Relevance of CEDAW by housing type

	Overall	Public Housing /	HOS/ Sandwich	Private	Quarter
		Squatter	Class		
Very relevant	18%	17%	16%	18%	30%
Quite relevant	38%	38%	39%	37%	26%
Average	19%	18%	19%	18%	30%
Not quite relevant	17%	16%	17%	18%	11%
Not relevant at all	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%
No comment	4%	6%	2%	3%	-
Sample size:	(1,528)	(572)	(257)	(662)	(27##)

^{##} very small base

Table 51 – Wish to be consulted on implementation of CEDAW by housing type

8 11	Overall	Public	HOS/	Private	Quarter
		Housing /	Sandwich		
		Squatter	Class		
Very much wish it	21%	21%	17%	23%	33%
Quite wish it	37%	37%	42%	36%	33%
No preference	21%	22%	20%	20%	26%
Not quite wish it	12%	11%	12%	13%	7%
Not wish it at all	4%	4%	5%	5%	-
No comment	4%	5%	3%	4%	-
Sample size:	(1,528)	(572)	(257)	(662)	(27##)

^{##} very small base

Table 52 – Whether Government had formulated policies/measures to promote the status of women in the last six years by housing type

	Overall	Public	HOS/	Private	Quarter
		Housing /	Sandwich		
		<u>Squatter</u>	<u>Class</u>		
Yes	29%	28%	31%	27%	52%
No	48%	45%	46%	52%	33%
Don't know	23%	27%	22%	21%	15%
Sample size:	(1,528)	(572)	(257)	(662)	(27##)

^{##} very small base

c) Respondents living in different types of housing indicated their top three concerns as women as follows:

Public Housing /Squatter

- Career (52%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (49%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health, job stability and financial status; and
- Hong Kong society (25%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

HOS/Sandwich Class

- Career (50%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
- Family (44%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health and job stability; and
- Children (28%): mainly concerning children's studies.

Private Housing

- Career (49%): included concerns about job stability, employment opportunities and salary cut;
 Family (49%): included concerns about relationship with family members, their health, job stability and financial status;
- Children (32%): mainly concerning children's studies; and
- Hong Kong society (28%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

Quarter (very small sample base)

- Career (45%): included concerns about job stability and employment opportunities;
- Family (37%): included concerns about family members' health and financial status; and
- Hong Kong society (33%): mainly not optimistic about economic growth.

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 7.1 Women's awareness of CEDAW and the rights therein is important, as this knowledge will enable them to assert their rights. According to survey findings, the general awareness level amongst respondents was low. To increase awareness level, the Government should adopt systematic and structured approaches to promote CEDAW. For example, the Government should identify areas where more promotion should be targeted; identify issues where more consultation should be conducted as well as to explore other appropriate consultation mechanisms.
- 7.2 Notwithstanding the level of awareness of CEDAW, findings also indicate that women in Hong Kong want to be consulted on the implementation of CEDAW. The Government should provide more information, such as sex-disaggregated data and periodic progress reports, on the implementation of CEDAW, to increase public understanding of the status of women in Hong Kong and to facilitate women's participation in meaningful dialogues with

policy-makers. Progress reports on the implementation of CEDAW should be provided to the wider public on an annual basis.

7.3 The majority of respondents did not know or think the Government had formulated any policies or measures to promote the status of women in the last six years. The Government should review its promotion and education strategy to raise general awareness of its gender-related policies and programmes. As a matter of good practice, the Government should also comprehensively review its work on women to assess whether women's needs and concerns are being adequately addressed by current government programmes.

(End)