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**Mapping state obligations for corporate acts:  
an examination of the UN Human Rights  
Treaty System**

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

Report No.VII

Prepared for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Human  
Rights and Transnational Corporations and  
Other Business Enterprises

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## PREFACE

The following report is part of a series examining States' obligations in relation to corporate activity under each of the United Nations' seven core human rights treaties ("Treaties").<sup>1</sup> A report summarizing the main findings and trends from the treaty-specific reports was submitted to the fourth session of the Human Rights Council.<sup>2</sup>

The series of reports map the scope and content of States Parties' responsibilities to regulate and adjudicate the actions of business enterprises under the treaties and as clarified by the respective treaty bodies.<sup>3</sup> This mapping supports the work of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The (then) United Nations Commission on Human Rights mandated the SRSG, *inter alia*, to:

"(b) elaborate on the role of States in effectively regulating and adjudicating the role of transnational corporations and other business enterprises with regard to human rights, including through international cooperation."<sup>4</sup>

The reports analyze a representative sample of primary materials associated with each treaty:<sup>5</sup> the actual treaty provisions; General Comments or Recommendations by the Committees; Concluding Observations on States' periodic reports; and Opinions on Communications and Decisions under Early Warning Measures and Urgent Procedures.<sup>6</sup>

The reports are based on direct references by the treaty bodies to business enterprises, as well as references to State obligations regarding non-State actors more generally where they help identify patterns and measures relevant to business enterprises. The reports do not document references to non-State actors that are unrelated to the mandate, such as armed groups, educational institutions, family members and religious leaders.

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<sup>1</sup> The following treaties were considered as part of this series: the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD); the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW). A summary of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ICRPD) (adopted by the GA in Dec. 2006) will supplement the individual treaty reports in the series but it is not analyzed in detail here. This Convention, which has not entered into force at the time of completing the research, contains specific references to business. The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances which has also not entered into force at the time of completing the research, has not been included in this research. See the individual reports for more detail, including information on the specific research methodology used. All reports will be made available as they are completed at <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Gettingstarted/UNSpecialRepresentative>.

<sup>2</sup> A/HRC/4/35/Add.1.

<sup>3</sup> The human rights treaty bodies are committees of independent experts that monitor implementation of the core international human rights treaties. They are created in line with the provisions of the treaty that they monitor.

<sup>4</sup> Commission on Human Rights Resolution 2005/69, paragraph (b). The SRSG now reports to the UN Human Rights Council.

<sup>5</sup> Only the report on the ICRMW includes sources not derived directly from the Committee. This was considered necessary due to the scarcity of primary sources from this recently established Committee.

<sup>6</sup> The ICCPR, CAT, CERD, CEDAW and ICRMW all have associated individual complaints mechanisms. CEDAW and CAT also have procedures for urgent inquiries. CERD has an early warning procedure.

The decision to focus the research on the treaties reflects the global importance of the United Nations' human rights treaty machinery. Due to time and resource constraints, other domains of human rights law, such as the regional human rights systems and international customary law, have not been included in this particular series, though they are referenced briefly in the SRSG's report to the fourth session of the Human Rights Council.<sup>7</sup> The same is true of other branches of international law that are relevant to the mandate, such as labour law and anti-corruption standards.

Any views or recommendations expressed in this series do not necessarily represent the views of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or the various treaty monitoring bodies.

The reports are numbered chronologically according to the date of adoption of each treaty.

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<sup>7</sup> A/HRC/4/35.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) aims to provide substantive equality of human rights protection for migrant workers and nationals. The Convention reinforces rights recognised elsewhere as particularly relevant to the situation of migrant workers. The ICRMW applies to both State and private acts during the entire migration process. Explicit reference is made in the Convention to “private individuals, groups or institutions,” and “employers,” but the State has the responsibility to respect and ensure human rights.

Both relevant treaty provisions and statements by the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW), which monitors the implementation of the ICRMW by States Parties, maintain that States Parties are required to regulate and adjudicate certain actions by business actors, including employers.

States must take “effective measures” to protect migrant workers and their families, *inter alia*, against violence and exploitation. States are also obligated to ensure equality in the enjoyment of rights by migrant workers, including equality in the remuneration and conditions of employment of migrant workers. The measures States are required to take may include, but are not limited to, legislative measures. The Convention does not stipulate specific adjudicative measures to respond to rights violations, but it does require States Parties to provide effective remedies to migrant workers for breaches of their rights under the Convention.

The Convention makes explicit reference to recruitment agencies, and implicit reference to the banking sector. In addition, the CMW has made recommendations concerning the regulation of recruitment agencies, the agricultural sector and the media.

Neither the Convention nor the CMW specifically address the issue of States’ responsibilities for rights violations by State owned business enterprises (SOEs). Since the Convention applies to both State action and private action, the distinction between State responsibility for acts of SOEs and for acts of privately owned companies may not be significant. States may be held responsible for rights violations by both categories of corporate actors, either under rules of attribution of State responsibility under international law or for failing in their duty to protect people within their jurisdiction for violations committed by corporate actors. .

States Parties to the Convention are obliged to ensure the rights of all migrant workers within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction. This implies limited extraterritorial application of States’ obligations in particular circumstances.

Adopted in 1990, the ICRMW entered into force in 2003. The CMW has expressed concern that enjoyment of the rights under the Convention is hampered by many States of employment not being Parties to the Convention

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| CAT    | Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; Committee against Torture                                   |
| CEDAW  | Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women; Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| CERD   | Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination  |
| CESCR  | Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights   |
| CMW    | Committee on Migrant Workers  |
| CRC    | Convention on the Rights of the Child; Committee on the Rights of the Child   |
| HRC    | Human Rights Committee  |
| ICCPR  | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights  |
| ICERD  | International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination   |
| ICESCR | International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights  |
| ICRMW  | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families   |
| OHCHR  | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights   |
| SOE    | State owned enterprise  |
| SRSR   | Special Representative of the Secretary-General   |

## INTRODUCTION

1. This report outlines the nature of State obligations under the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and members of Their Families (ICRMW) in relation to activities of business enterprises, as elaborated by the treaty monitoring body, the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW).<sup>8</sup> The report examines the scope and application of the ICRMW with a specific focus on the extent to which it obliges States to ensure human rights in the context of corporate activity.
2. The report is primarily based on an examination of the Convention itself and materials from the CMW. However, in view of the limited number of sessions of the CMW,<sup>9</sup> and of available Concluding Observations by the Committee,<sup>10</sup> the report also relies on a limited number of secondary sources. All sources used for the report are clearly referenced.
3. While the report focuses on the Convention's and the CMW's direct and specific references to business actors such as employers, general references to non-State actors are included where they help identify patterns and measures relevant to business enterprises.
4. The report is done to inform the work of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (SRSG), who was mandated by the then United Nations Commission on Human Rights to "elaborate on the role of States in effectively *regulating* and *adjudicating* the role of transnational corporations and other business enterprises with regard to human rights."<sup>11</sup> (emphasis added)
5. For the purpose of this report, "*regulatory measures*" are legislative and similar measures designed to prevent abuse, including legislation proscribing abuse by non-State actors. "*Adjudicative measures*" include judicial or other measures to punish or remediate abuse, such as investigating, prosecuting and sanctioning offenders through judicial process. Effective remedies for victims of violations are also examined.
6. The phrase "*non-State actors*" is understood as any actor that is not a State agent and that may indirectly violate human rights (as enshrined in the relevant Convention). The definition does not include persons or groups that require State protection, such as human rights defenders or victims of violations.
7. A discussion of State responsibility in relation to activities by State owned business enterprises (SOEs) is included in Part IV of the report to highlight State responsibility in relation to this particular category of corporate actors. For the purposes of this report, SOEs are understood as State owned or controlled businesses performing business operations similar to non-State business enterprises.

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<sup>8</sup> See ICRMW Part VII, paragraphs 72 -78, for the mandate of the CMW.

<sup>9</sup> Inaugural session of the CMW took place in Geneva from 1-5 March 2004. As of November 2006, the CMW had met for five sessions.

<sup>10</sup> Only two Concluding Observations by the CMW were available at the time the research was undertaken: Mali (CMW/C/MLI/CO/1, and Mexico (CMW/C/MEX/CO/1).

<sup>11</sup> Commission on Human Rights Resolution 2005/69, paragraph (b). The SRSG now reports to the UN Human Rights Council.

8. Any reference to “*migrant workers*” includes family members, as appropriate, and as defined in Article 4 of the Convention.<sup>12</sup>

## **PART 1 – GENERAL NATURE AND SCOPE OF STATE OBLIGATIONS**

### **A. Scope and limitation**

9. The ICRMW is a Convention for a specific group: migrant workers and their families. The Convention defines a “migrant worker” as any “person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.”<sup>13</sup> The Convention distinguishes between all migrant workers and members of their families (including those in irregular or undocumented situations) and documented migrant workers and members of their families. All are entitled to the basic rights set forth in part III of the Convention. The documented migrant workers enjoy additional rights set forth in part IV of the Convention.

10. The aim of the ICRMW is to secure “the international protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families.”<sup>14</sup> It is applicable to all migrant workers and members of their families without distinction of any kind,<sup>15</sup> for the duration of the entire migration process, which according to Article 2.1 of the Convention comprises preparation for migration, departure, transit, the entire period of stay and remunerated activity and the return to the State of origin or habitual residence.

11. The rights contained within the ICRMW are not unique to migrant workers; rather, the Convention reinforces rights recognised elsewhere, notably in the Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as particularly relevant to the situation of migrant workers and with the aim to ensure that such rights are enjoyed without discrimination.

12. The Convention adopts the traditional approach to international human rights instruments by identifying the State as the holder of obligations to respect and ensure human rights. It also identifies certain responsibilities of the private sector, to be realized through the State.

13. While many of the provisions in the Convention are directed at acts which are the prerogative of States (i.e.- stipulating conditions of entry, stay, family reunification etc.), the Convention is not limited to State actions during the migration process. References to remunerated activities are not limited to public employment, and employers and private actors are explicitly mentioned in several provisions of the Convention.<sup>16</sup> Consequently, the Convention applies to activities of *private actors* as well as State actors.

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<sup>12</sup> See Annex I for text of the substantive articles of the ICRMW.

<sup>13</sup> ICRMW Article 2.1.

<sup>14</sup> ICRMW Preamble.

<sup>15</sup> See ICRMW Article 1.1.

<sup>16</sup> See for example ICRMW Article 16 and Article 25.

14. State Parties' responsibilities under the Convention do not extend to protecting all migrants. Article 3 excludes application of the Convention to some groups who live and may work outside their State of origin, including: persons employed by international organisations, persons participating in development programmes, and refugees and stateless persons.

#### *Territorial application*

15. States Parties to the Convention are obliged to respect and to ensure the rights outlined by the Convention without distinction of any kind **within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction.**<sup>17</sup> (emphasis added) Implicit in this language is the possibility of extraterritorial application of States' obligations under the Convention in cases where migrant workers are not *within* the territory of a State Party, but are still subject to its jurisdiction. The CMW has not yet clarified what this distinction may mean in practice.

16. The CMW has recommended that States of origin take measures to provide effective assistance to their nationals abroad, *inter alia* through consular protection, whenever human or labour rights of migrants are threatened or impaired.<sup>18</sup>

17. The Convention is multi-territorial in its application, since it imposes varying obligations on States of origin, States of employment, and States of transit.<sup>19</sup> While most responsibilities are directed against States of employment, some provisions explicitly reference obligations of States of origin.<sup>20</sup> However, the scope of each set of these obligations is limited to migrant workers present in their territories or subject to their jurisdiction, as outlined above in paragraph 15.

## **B. State responsibility to protect against acts of non-State actors**

18. The ICRMW contains both *explicit and implied obligations* on States to protect migrant workers against rights violations by non-state actors.

19. The Convention explicitly obliges States to effectively protect migrant workers and their families against acts of violence, whether by the State or "private individuals, groups or institutions."<sup>21</sup> This implicitly extends the provision to business enterprises committing violence.

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<sup>17</sup> ICRMW Article 7.

<sup>18</sup> Doc. No. A/61/120, Contribution by the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to the High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development of the General Assembly. 3 July 2006. Para 115(a).

<sup>19</sup> See ICRMW Art 6 for a definition of these three categories for the purposes of the Convention.

<sup>20</sup> See for example ICRMW Art 33 concerning the right to be informed "by the State of origin, the State of employment or the State of transit" as the case may be concerning rights under the Convention. See also ICRMW Art 37 which applies to documented workers according to which the State of origin of the State of employment, as appropriate, shall provide full information about conditions applicable to admission, stay and employment.

<sup>21</sup> ICRMW Article 16.2.

**Article 16.2, CMW:** Migrant workers and members of their families shall be entitled to effective protection by the State against violence, physical injury, threats and intimidation, whether by public officials or by private individuals, groups or institutions.

20. Article 43 obliges States of employment to ensure equality of treatment between documented migrant workers and nationals, *inter alia*, in relation to access to housing and “to protect against exploitation in respect of rents”. From the wording of the article it follows that this provision applies beyond public housing schemes.

21. States Parties also have an obligation to ensure “protection of the unity of the families of [documented] migrant workers.”<sup>22</sup> This implies a duty of the States to protect migrant workers against acts which would interfere with the unity of the family of migrant workers, including when such acts are undertaken by non-State actors, including private employers.

22. Another example of an implied duty of States to protect against violations of the Convention by non-state actors is Article 9 which provides that the right to life of migrant workers shall be protected by law. Considering the broad scope of the Convention, the obligation on States Parties to protect the right to life must be assumed to extend to protection against acts by business enterprises which threaten the right to life.

23. Article 11 prohibits the holding of migrant workers or their families in slavery or servitude, as well as forced or compulsory labour. Since Article 11 does not distinguish between public and private employers, it suggests both are prohibited from such acts. Thus, States are required to protect migrant workers from both private and public employers subjecting them to such rights violations.

24. Likewise, Article 12, 2 stipulates that migrant workers “shall not be subject to coercion that would impair their freedom to have or to adopted a religion or belief of their choice.” This implies a duty of States to protect migrant workers against coercion by any third party, including private employers.

25. Article 14 provides migrant workers with the right “to the *protection* of the law” against *any* interference or attack on their privacy, family, home, correspondence or other communications, or to unlawful attacks on honour and reputation (emphasis added), which implies a right to protection against interference by employers and others.

26. Other rights also imply a need to protect against interference in the enjoyment of rights by both State and non-State employers, for example the right of documented migrant workers to form trade unions which are subject only to specific limitations.<sup>23</sup>

## **PART II – MEASURES STATES ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE**

### **A. General Considerations**

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<sup>22</sup> ICRMW Article 44. 1.

<sup>23</sup> ICRMW Article 40.2.

27. The ICRMW aims to protect migrant workers' human rights without distinction or discrimination. The Convention does not assert new substantive rights unique to migrant workers, but offers States a framework for extending existing human rights to migrant workers in a manner which ensures non-discrimination.

**Article 7, CMW:** States Parties undertake... to respect and to ensure to all migrant workers and members of their families within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction the rights provided for in the present Convention without distinction of any kind...

28. The Convention's overarching theme of non-discrimination with respect to human rights is reflected in Article 7. The duty to "ensure...rights provided for in the ...Convention" requires States to take affirmative steps to facilitate rights' protection, including direct State intervention or regulation of the operations of employers or other actors involved in the migration process, such as recruitment agencies.

29. Article 82 stipulates that the rights provided for in the Convention "may not be renounced" and that it is not possible to contractually deviate from these rights. States Parties must take "appropriate measures" to ensure that these principles are respected. This broadly worded prohibition against "contracting" out of the protection granted by the Convention applies to all rights and is later reiterated explicitly in relation to private contracts concerning equality in remuneration and other conditions of work and terms of employment (see immediately below).

## **B. Regulatory and legislative measures**

30. Many ICRMW provisions require States Parties to take affirmative "measures" to ensure the protection of rights. However, it cannot be assumed that the required "measures" always translate into passing legislation. Other types of regulation may be sufficient for States to meet the obligations imposed by the Convention.

31. Article 25 of the Convention affords migrant workers substantive equality with nationals with respect to remuneration and other conditions and terms of employment. Such equality ideally protects migrant workers from abuse, and removes the incentive for employers to resort to irregular recruitment or employment.<sup>24</sup> In particular, States are explicitly required to make it illegal to derogate in private contracts from the principle of equality of treatment. This includes a duty to legislate against such private contracts between employers and migrants.

**Article 25, CMW:** 1. Migrant workers shall enjoy treatment not less favourable than that which applies to nationals of the State of employment in respect of remuneration and:  
(a) Other conditions of work, that is to say, overtime, hours of work, weekly rest, holidays with pay, safety, health, termination of the employment relationship and any other conditions of work which, according to national law and practice, are covered by these terms;  
(b) Other terms of employment, that is to say, minimum age of employment, restriction on home work and any other matters which, according to national law and practice, are considered a term of employment.  
2. It shall not be lawful to derogate in private contracts of employment from the principle of equality of treatment referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article.

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<sup>24</sup> A/ 61/120, para. 12.

32. Ensuring equality of treatment requires States to have strong anti-discrimination legislation regulating the public and private employment markets. The CMW has made specific recommendations to States of employment regarding the measures they must take to ensure equality in remuneration and conditions of employment:

- Ensure labour and social standards cover all migrant workers
- Promote the full enjoyment by all migrants of all human rights, including their rights at work
- Ensure labour legislation is effectively implemented, including penalties for employers and other persons, groups or entities that are in breach of such legislation
- Consider taking measures to control the informal labour market
- Take all adequate and effective measures to eliminate employment of migrant workers in irregular situations, including, whenever appropriate, penalties for the employers of such workers.<sup>25</sup>

33. The anti-discrimination principle found in Article 25 is reiterated in other parts of the Convention. Articles 43, 54 and 55 all refer to “equality of treatment” and Article 43.2 places an affirmative obligation upon States to “promote conditions to ensure effective equality of treatment” enabling migrant workers to enjoy their rights.

34. In conjunction with the broad scope of Article 1 which covers all remunerated activity by migrant workers, Article 31.1 requires States Parties “shall ensure respect for the cultural identity of migrant workers.” This may involve an obligation to regulate the operations of non-State employers. Article 31.2 also provides that States Parties “may take appropriate measures to assist and encourage efforts in this respect,” where the obligation to “encourage efforts” may include supporting best practice by private employers.

35. Article 70 requires that States Parties, “shall take measures not less favourable than those applied to nationals to ensure that working and living conditions of migrant workers [in a regular situation]... are in keeping with the standards of fitness, safety, health and principles of human dignity.” As it relates to both “working and living conditions,” Article 70 imposes a wide-ranging obligation on the State to regulate the conditions offered by all State and non-State employers to migrant workers.

36. The Convention stipulates that it shall be “unlawful for anyone, other than a public official duly authorized by law, to confiscate, destroy or attempt to destroy identity documents, documents authorizing entry or stay, residence or establishment in the national territory or work permits.”<sup>26</sup> This implies a duty of States Parties to pass regulation enacting such parameters that apply to private employers. Indeed, the CMW has recommended that States ensure legislation prohibits the retention of identity documents by employers or recruitment agents, as well as all systems of forced sponsorship of migrants, many of which are designed to ensure control over the migrant throughout the period of residence.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> A/61/120, para. 13 (d)

<sup>26</sup> ICRMW Article 21.

<sup>27</sup> A/61/120, para. 15 (b).

37. The Convention further stipulates that States Parties, including States of transit, collaborate to prevent and eliminate trafficking and employment of migrant workers in irregular situations. States of employment shall take all “adequate and effective measures” to eliminate employment of migrant workers in such situations.<sup>28</sup>

38. In order to prevent and eliminate trafficking in migrant workers, States should:

- Take “appropriate measures” against the dissemination of misleading information relating to emigration and immigration
- Detect and eradicate illegal or clandestine movements of migrant workers.<sup>29</sup>

39. The CMW has interpreted this to mean that States should take an active role in disseminating reliable information about the conditions of migration. The CMW has also recommended that States take ‘effective measures’ to counter misconceptions and misleading information and promote knowledge of the human rights of migrants, though it has not elaborated on what such ‘effective measures’ could entail.<sup>30</sup>

### **C. Adjudication measures**

#### *Sanctions*

40. Only the provision aimed at combating trafficking in migrant workers explicitly refers to “sanctions.” Article 68 notes that the measures to be taken within the jurisdiction of each State concerned shall include:

- Measures to impose effective sanctions on persons, groups or entities which organise, operate or assist in organising or operating illegal or clandestine movements of migrant workers
- Measures to impose effective sanctions on persons, groups or entities which use violence, threats or intimidation against migrant workers in an irregular situation.<sup>31</sup>

41. The provision’s wording and the issue it addresses suggest that the obligation to impose effective sanctions extends to activities by business enterprises engaged in trafficking or employers of trafficked migrant workers.

42. Article 68 also obliges States to take adequate measures, including sanctions where appropriate against employers of migrants in an irregular situation. The CMW has recommended that States impose “penalties” where appropriate on employers of undocumented migrant workers.<sup>32</sup>

43. In the Concluding Observations to Mexico, the CMW recommended that all allegations of abuse, including maltreatment, be investigated and that those responsible be

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<sup>28</sup> ICRMW Article 68.2.

<sup>29</sup> ICRMW Article 68.

<sup>30</sup> A/61/120, para. 9(a).

<sup>31</sup> ICRMW Article 68.

<sup>32</sup> A/61/120, para. 13(d).

sanctioned.<sup>33</sup> In the context of alleged ill-treatment, extortions and robbery committed by employees of private security companies, the CMW recommended that the Mexican Government ensure that such allegations are investigated and that the persons responsible are prosecuted and sanctioned.<sup>34</sup>

### *Effective remedies*

44. Article 83 requires States Parties to ensure that any person whose rights under the Convention are violated have access to an effective remedy, regardless of whether the violation has been committed by persons acting in an official or non-official capacity.

**Article 83, CMW:** Each State Party to the present Convention undertakes:

(a) To ensure that any person whose rights or freedoms as herein recognized are violated shall have an effective remedy, notwithstanding that the violation has been committed by persons acting in an official capacity;

(b) To ensure that any persons seeking such a remedy shall have his or her claim reviewed and decided by competent judicial, administrative or legislative authorities, or by any other competent authority provided for by the legal system of the State, and to develop the possibilities of judicial remedy;

(a) To ensure that the competent authorities shall enforce such remedies when granted.

45. Notwithstanding the broad scope of Article 83, the CMW has stated that many migrants face problems in seeking remedies for rights violations because they are not entitled to stay in the country of employment once the employment contract has been terminated. The CMW has therefore recommended migrant workers be allowed to stay in the State of employment for the time necessary to seek remedies for unpaid wages and benefits. The Committee also recommends that States should consider offering legal services to migrant workers in legal proceedings related to employment and migration.<sup>35</sup>

45. The CMW has furthermore recommended that States establish effective and accessible channels which would allow all migrant workers to lodge complaints of violations of their rights without fear of retaliation on the grounds that they may be in an irregular situation.<sup>36</sup>

46. Article 23 imposes obligations on States of origin to provide migrant workers with a right of recourse when their rights under the Convention are impaired. “Impairment” of the rights recognised by the Convention may include transgressions by non-State actors. “Assistance” generally entails the provision of consular assistance by the country of origin to migrants in trouble in the country of employment. It could also entail provision of legal safeguards and could include the facilitation of legal representation and assistance in obtaining potential remedies against employers in the State of employment. States of employment or transit are also obliged to allow such recourse.

47. Article 54 provides that a migrant worker in a regular situation who claims that the terms of his or her work contract have been violated by the employer, shall have the right to address the case to the competent authorities of the States of employment on equal terms as nationals.

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<sup>33</sup> CMW/C/MEX/CO/1, para. 39.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid. para. 31.

<sup>35</sup> A/61/120, para. 17.

<sup>36</sup> A/61/120, para. 15 (f).

48. Similarly, Article 61.2 imposes a duty upon States to ensure that ‘project-tied’ workers have access to remedies for violations of the terms of their ‘work contracts’ by their employer.

49. More broadly, Article 18 ensures that, “migrant workers... shall have the right to equality with nationals of the State concerned before the courts and tribunals.” Unlike the provisions referred to in this section, Article 18 does not apply only to a situation where migrant workers seek a remedy for violations under the Convention, but rather to any situation before courts and tribunals.

### **C. Specific measures to ensure the rights of vulnerable groups**

50. The Preamble of the Convention recognises that migrant workers are in a situation of vulnerability and that their rights have not been sufficiently recognised. According to the CMW, migrant workers, in particular those in irregular employment situations, are among the most vulnerable groups in society, as they often find themselves without access to social protection networks. They may face a heightened risk of exploitation, racism and discrimination as a result of their migration status, and may be unwilling or unable to make use of available legal remedies for the protection of their rights.

51. While not providing specific rights to undocumented migrant workers, Article 68 invites States Parties, including State of transit, to collaborate to prevent and eliminate illegal and clandestine movements (trafficking) of migrant workers as well as their employment.

52. The CMW has recommended special attention be given to protect the rights of migrant women, in particular domestic workers, to reduce their vulnerability.<sup>37</sup> It has recommended that States adopt measures to protect these workers, including by providing access to a regular migratory status, and by ensuring more frequent and systematic involvement of the labour inspection authorities in the supervision of work conditions. The CMW also recommends that domestic workers should have access to a mechanism to report alleged abuse by their employers, and that all cases of abuse, including ill-treatment, be investigated and sanctioned.<sup>38</sup>

53. OHCHR has recommended that States adopt policies to empower migrant women. Many women migrate in circumstances which expose them to the risk of exploitation and abuse. It has therefore been recommended that migration policies and programmes should be gender sensitive to ensure that adequate attention is given to the special circumstances of migrant women.<sup>39</sup>

54. The OHCHR has highlighted the plight of unaccompanied migrant children, arguing that unaccompanied children seeking employment are particularly vulnerable and exposed to exploitation. According to OHCHR, States should take measures to ensure that their specific protection needs are met, and that unaccompanied migrant children, as well as the children of migrant workers, be given equal opportunities to exercise their rights.

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<sup>37</sup> A/61/120, para. 15(c).

<sup>38</sup> CMW/C/MEX/CO/1/en, para. 35 .

<sup>39</sup> Ibid. note 9.

OHCHR's comments appear to contemplate regulating both private and public employers to ensure full enjoyment of migrant children's rights.<sup>40</sup>

55. In its Concluding Observations to the Government of Mali, the CMW recommended that the State Party intensify its efforts to combat trafficking in children and women.<sup>41</sup>

## **PART III – BUSINESS SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **A. Recruitment Agencies**

56. Recruitment agencies represent the only sector explicitly referred to in the Convention. The Convention restricts any "operations with a view to the recruitment of workers for employment in another State" to public services or bodies. "Agencies, prospective employers or persons acting on their behalf" may also be permitted to engage in recruitment of workers for employment in another State, subject to 'authorization, approval and supervisions of the States Parties concerned.'<sup>42</sup>

57. According to the CMW, absence of "control over recruitment agents, agencies and intermediaries has led to many instances of abuse of migrant workers, who often have to pay exorbitant recruitment fees, resulting in heavy debts."<sup>43</sup> The Committee has stressed that the effective supervision of recruitment agencies is of the 'utmost importance' to avoid abuse.

58. Specific directions to States by the CMW include regulation of the activities of recruitment and placement agencies, for instance through a licensing system. States should take effective measures to ensure that these agencies respect the fundamental rights of migrants, and that migrant workers have clear and enforceable employment contracts.<sup>44</sup>

59. OHCHR has reiterated the call that 'recruitment agencies should be adequately regulated' to avoid migrant exposure to exploitation. It has also recommended that procedures for accountability as well as those which ensure safe living and working conditions be developed and monitored as a means to prevent all kinds of harms and abuses, including trafficking.<sup>45</sup>

### **B. Media**

60. The Committee has recommended that States of employment "encourage" the media to counter tendencies towards racism, xenophobia and discrimination by drawing attention to the positive contributions of migrant workers to the development of the host

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<sup>40</sup> *High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development – Key OHCHR Messages*, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, August 2006.

<sup>41</sup> CMW/C/MLI/CO/1, paras. 22 and 23.

<sup>42</sup> ICRMW Article 66.

<sup>43</sup> A/61/120, para 10.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid*, para 11.

<sup>45</sup> *High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development – Key OHCHR Messages*, *ibid.* note 32.

society.<sup>46</sup> These comments are sufficiently general to apply to both State and privately owned media.

### **C. Bank sector**

61. While not explicitly mentioned in the Convention itself, Article 32 may have implications for the banking sector by giving the right to migrant workers, upon the termination of their stay in the State of employment, to transfer their earnings and savings. For documented migrant workers, Article 47 gives the right to transfer earnings and savings from the State of employment to the State of origin or any other State. Article 47.2 stipulates that “States concerned shall take appropriate measures to facilitate such transfers.” This may be interpreted as an obligation to regulate the banking sector accordingly.

### **D. Agricultural sector**

62. In one of its Concluding Observations, the CMW expressed concern specifically regarding the conditions of temporal agricultural workers who allegedly are subject to unjust working conditions, including long working hours and ill-treatment by their employers. The CMW recommended States take measures to improve the working conditions of temporal agricultural workers, for example by guaranteeing that the Federal Labour Inspection systematically monitor compliance with the norms regulating the work of agricultural daily workers. The CMW also recommended that all allegations of abuse, including maltreatment, be investigated and that those responsible be sanctioned.<sup>47</sup>

## **PART IV – STATE OWNED ENTERPRISES**

63. The scope of this report does not extend to analyzing international legal standards of State responsibility in relation to state owned business enterprises (SOEs).<sup>48</sup> Under public international law, conduct of a State organ, or conduct which is directed or controlled by a State, is attributed to the States unless the conduct was carried out “in a wholly private capacity, without colour of State authority.”<sup>49</sup>

64. Neither the Convention nor any of the materials of the CMW explicitly address the question of SOEs, or elaborates on whether the scope of States’ responsibilities under the Convention for corporate acts varies according to the state owned nature of the business enterprise involved.

65. Given the broad scope of Article 1 of the Convention, which extends the application of the Convention to private as well as State action, a distinction between State

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<sup>46</sup> A/61/120, para. 9 (b).

<sup>47</sup> CMW/C/MEX/CO/1, para. 39.

<sup>48</sup> The focus of this discussion is on State owned business enterprises performing business operations similar to privately owned business enterprises. The discussion does not apply to State-owned or privatized entities performing government functions.

<sup>49</sup> James Crawford, *Human Rights and State Responsibility* in Thomas J Dodd Research Center – University of Connecticut, 12th Raymond & Beverly Sackler Distinguished Lecture Series, 25 October 2006, p 3. See also Articles 4, 5 and 8 of the Articles on Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts adopted by the International Law Commission in 2001.

responsibility for violations arising from private business enterprise and violations arising from SOEs is immaterial. Arguably, the State may be held responsible for violations in both scenarios. If the SOE is considered by the CMW to be an organ of the State or if the CMW determines that the actions of the SOE in question are directed or controlled by the State, the violation may be attributed directly to the State. If the violation arises from an act by a private business enterprise the State may still be held responsible under the Convention for having failed to ensure protection of the right.

66. Still unresolved is the State's responsibility for its SOEs' activities outside its territory. As previously noted, a State's responsibility under the Convention to respect and ensure the rights therein extends beyond the territory of that State to migrant workers subject to the State's jurisdiction.<sup>50</sup> Where an SOE is considered to be a State agent and have a degree of power over the population in the area of operation, it may be possible that the (foreign) population is actually considered to be subject to the State's jurisdiction, triggering the State's responsibilities for any violation by the SOE.

## **PART V – EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION**

67. States Parties to the Convention are obliged to ensure the rights provided for in the Convention without distinction of any kind **within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction.**<sup>51</sup> This implies the possibility of extraterritorial application of States' obligations under the Convention in cases where migrant workers are not within the territory of a State Party but are still subject to its jurisdiction. What this means in practice has not yet been clarified by the CMW. It is possible that the CMW may be influenced in its interpretation of the territorial reach of the Convention by the works of other treaty bodies in this regard, for example the Human Rights Committee.<sup>52</sup>

68. While there is nothing in the material available that suggests a *duty* on States to regulate extra-territorially to protect the rights in the Convention beyond what is prescribed in Article 7, nothing in the Convention itself appears to prohibit States from doing so.

## **PART VI – CONCLUSIONS AND TRENDS**

69. The ICRMW reinforces rights recognised in other international human rights instruments, notably the Covenants of Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with a view to ensuring substantive equality with nationals in the enjoyment of human rights. The Convention, which was adopted in 1990, follows the example of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (adopted 1989). In each, rights holders are members of a particular group and the rights covered include civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

70. The scope of the ICRMW is very broad - Article 1 stipulates that it applies to *all* migrant workers during *the entire migration process*. States Parties as the duty bearers of

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<sup>50</sup> ICRMW Article 7.

<sup>51</sup> ICRMW Article 7. Italics added. See also discussion above in Part I about the extra-territorial reach of some of the provisions of the Convention.

<sup>52</sup> See discussion in Part V of Report no. II on State obligations under the ICCPR.

the Convention consequently have wide-ranging responsibilities to ensure the enjoyment of the rights, including in the context of corporate acts. Considering that the rights holders are migrant *workers* it is inevitable that the Convention has a particular emphasis on workplace related rights, and thus potentially has significant impact on the regulatory framework for business enterprises employing migrant workers.

71. The Convention does not explicitly define the "effective measures" States Parties are obliged to take to ensure rights protection. Few Articles clearly require States to take legislative measures, and even fewer Articles directly require States to take specific adjudicative measures. Over time, the CMW can be expected to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the kinds regulatory and adjudicative measures States are obliged to take, including in relation to corporate acts. Already the recommendations contained in the two available Concluding Observations from the Committee provide more detailed information about the nature of State Parties' responsibilities, including in situations involving private employers and in relation to particular sectors.<sup>53</sup>

72. Though the ICRMW was adopted in 1990, it only went into effect in July 2003 when the necessary minimum of 20 States Parties had ratified it.<sup>54</sup> As of March 2007, 36 States are Parties to the Convention, most of whom would be considered States of origin.<sup>55</sup> The CMW has expressed concern that enjoyment of the rights under the Convention is hampered by many States of employment not being Parties to the Convention,<sup>56</sup> and has called upon States that are not yet parties to consider adhering to it without delay.<sup>57</sup> Until a larger number of States of employment ratify the Convention its impact on the effective and equal enjoyment of human rights by migrant workers may be limited.

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<sup>53</sup> See specifically CMW/C/MEX/CO/1.

<sup>54</sup> Article 87.1. Note by comparison that the Convention on the Rights of the Child entered into force a record 10 months following the adoption of the Convention.

<sup>55</sup> See ANNEX II for status of ratification.

<sup>56</sup> CMW/C/MLI/CO/1, para. 3.

<sup>57</sup> A/61/120, para. 24.

## **ANNEX I - SUBSTANTIVE ARTICLES OF THE ICRMW<sup>58</sup>**

Preamble

The States Parties to the present Convention,

Taking into account the principles embodied in the basic instruments of the United Nations concerning human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Taking into account also the principles and standards set forth in the relevant instruments elaborated within the framework of the International Labour Organisation, especially the Convention concerning Migration for Employment (No. 97), the Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (No.143), the Recommendation concerning Migration for Employment (No. 86), the Recommendation concerning Migrant Workers (No.151), the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (No. 29) and the Convention concerning Abolition of Forced Labour (No. 105), Reaffirming the importance of the principles contained in the Convention against Discrimination in Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Declaration of the Fourth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, and the Slavery Conventions,

Recalling that one of the objectives of the International Labour Organisation, as stated in its Constitution, is the protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own, and bearing in mind the expertise and experience of that organization in matters related to migrant workers and members of their families,

Recognizing the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in various organs of the United Nations, in particular in the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development, and in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, as well as in other international organizations,

Recognizing also the progress made by certain States on a regional or bilateral basis towards the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families, as well as the importance and usefulness of bilateral and multilateral agreements in this field,

Realizing the importance and extent of the migration phenomenon, which involves millions of people and affects a large number of States in the international community,

Aware of the impact of the flows of migrant workers on States and people concerned, and desiring to establish norms which may contribute to the harmonization of the attitudes of States through the acceptance of basic principles concerning the treatment of migrant workers and members of their families,

Considering the situation of vulnerability in which migrant workers and members of their families frequently-find themselves owing, among other things, to their absence from their State of origin and to the difficulties they may encounter arising from their presence in the State of employment,

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<sup>58</sup> The text of the substantive articles of the ICRMW is copied from the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. It does not include Part VII: Application of the Convention, which concerns the establishment and workings of the CMW.

Convinced that the rights of migrant workers and members of their families have not been sufficiently recognized everywhere and therefore require appropriate international protection,

Taking into account the fact that migration is often the cause of serious problems for the members of the families of migrant workers as well as for the workers themselves, in particular because of the scattering of the family,

Bearing in mind that the human problems involved in migration are even more serious in the case of irregular migration and convinced therefore that appropriate action should be encouraged in order to prevent and eliminate clandestine movements and trafficking in migrant workers, while at the same time assuring the protection of their fundamental human rights,

Considering that workers who are non-documented or in an irregular situation are frequently employed under less favourable conditions of work than other workers and that certain employers find this an inducement to seek such labour in order to reap the benefits of unfair competition,

Considering also that recourse to the employment of migrant workers who are in an irregular situation will be discouraged if the fundamental human rights of all migrant workers are more widely recognized and, moreover, that granting certain additional rights to migrant workers and members of their families in a regular situation will encourage all migrants and employers to respect and comply with the laws and procedures established by the States concerned,

Convinced, therefore, of the need to bring about the international protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families, reaffirming and establishing basic norms in a comprehensive convention which could be applied universally,

Have agreed as follows:

## ***Part I: Scope and Definitions***

### ***Article 1***

1. The present Convention is applicable, except as otherwise provided hereafter, to all migrant workers and members of their families without distinction of any kind such as sex, race, colour, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth or other status.

2. The present Convention shall apply during the entire migration process of migrant workers and members of their families, which comprises preparation for migration, departure, transit and the entire period of stay and remunerated activity in the State of employment as well as return to the State of origin or the State of habitual residence.

### ***Article 2***

For the purposes of the present Convention:

1. The term "migrant worker" refers to a person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.

2.

(a) The term "frontier worker" refers to a migrant worker who retains his or her habitual residence in a neighbouring State to which he or she normally returns every day or at least once a week;

(b) The term "seasonal worker" refers to a migrant worker whose work by its character is dependent on seasonal conditions and is performed only during part of the year;

(c) The term "seafarer", which includes a fisherman, refers to a migrant worker employed on board a vessel registered in a State of which he or she is not a national;

(d) The term "worker on an offshore installation" refers to a migrant worker employed on an offshore installation that is under the jurisdiction of a State of which he or she is not a national;

(e) The term "itinerant worker" refers to a migrant worker who, having his or her habitual residence in one State, has to travel to another State or States for short periods, owing to the nature of his or her occupation;

(f) The term "project-tied worker" refers to a migrant worker admitted to a State of employment for a defined period to work solely on a specific project being carried out in that State by his or her employer;

(g) The term "specified-employment worker" refers to a migrant worker:

(i) Who has been sent by his or her employer for a restricted and defined period of time to a State of employment to undertake a specific assignment or duty; or

(ii) Who engages for a restricted and defined period of time in work that requires professional, commercial, technical or other highly specialized skill; or

(iii) Who, upon the request of his or her employer in the State of employment, engages for a restricted and defined period of time in work whose nature is transitory or brief; and who is required to depart from the State of employment either at the expiration of his or her authorized period of stay, or earlier if he or she no longer undertakes that specific assignment or duty or engages in that work;

(h) The term "self-employed worker" refers to a migrant worker who is engaged in a remunerated activity otherwise than under a contract of employment and who earns his or her living through this activity normally working alone or together with members of his or her family, and to any other migrant worker recognized as self-employed by applicable legislation of the State of employment or bilateral or multilateral agreements.

### **Article 3**

The present Convention shall not apply to:

(a) Persons sent or employed by international organizations and agencies or persons sent or employed by a State outside its territory to perform official functions, whose admission and status are regulated by general international law or by specific international agreements or conventions;

(b) Persons sent or employed by a State or on its behalf outside its territory who participate in development programmes and other co-operation programmes, whose admission and status are regulated by agreement with the State of employment and who, in accordance with that agreement, are not considered migrant workers;

(c) Persons taking up residence in a State different from their State of origin as investors;

(d) Refugees and stateless persons, unless such application is provided for in the relevant national legislation of, or international instruments in force for, the State Party concerned;

(e) Students and trainees;

(f) Seafarers and workers on an offshore installation who have not been admitted to take up residence and engage in a remunerated activity in the State of employment.

### **Article 4**

For the purposes of the present Convention the term "members of the family" refers to persons married to migrant workers or having with them a relationship that, according to applicable law, produces effects equivalent to marriage, as well as their dependent children and other dependent persons who are recognized as members of the family by applicable legislation or applicable bilateral or multilateral agreements between the States concerned.

## ***Article 5***

For the purposes of the present Convention, migrant workers and members of their families:

(a) Are considered as documented or in a regular situation if they are authorized to enter, to stay and to engage in a remunerated activity in the State of employment pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party;

(b) Are considered as non-documented or in an irregular situation if they do not comply with the conditions provided for in subparagraph (a) of the present article.

## ***Article 6***

For the purposes of the present Convention:

(a) The term "State of origin" means the State of which the person concerned is a national;

(b) The term "State of employment" means a State where the migrant worker is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity, as the case may be;

(c) The term "State of transit," means any State through which the person concerned passes on any journey to the State of employment or from the State of employment to the State of origin or the State of habitual residence.

## ***Part II: Non-discrimination with Respect to Rights***

### ***Article 7***

States Parties undertake, in accordance with the international instruments concerning human rights, to respect and to ensure to all migrant workers and members of their families within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction the rights provided for in the present Convention without distinction of any kind such as to sex, race, colour, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth or other status.

## ***Part III: Human Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families***

### ***Article 8***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall be free to leave any State, including their State of origin. This right shall not be subject to any restrictions except those that are provided by law, are necessary to protect national security, public order (ordre public), public health or morals or the rights and freedoms of others and are consistent with the other rights recognized in the present part of the Convention.

2. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right at any time to enter and remain in their State of origin.

### ***Article 9***

The right to life of migrant workers and members of their families shall be protected by law.

### ***Article 10***

No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

## **Article 11**

1. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be held in slavery or servitude.
2. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.
3. Paragraph 2 of the present article shall not be held to preclude, in States where imprisonment with hard labour may be imposed as a punishment for a crime, the performance of hard labour in pursuance of a sentence to such punishment by a competent court.
4. For the purpose of the present article the term "forced or compulsory labour" shall not include:
  - (a) Any work or service not referred to in paragraph 3 of the present article normally required of a person who is under detention in consequence of a lawful order of a court or of a person during conditional release from such detention;
  - (b) Any service exacted in cases of emergency or clamity threatening the life or well-being of the community;
  - (c) Any work or service that forms part of normal civil obligations so far as it is imposed also on citizens of the State concerned.

## **Article 12**

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of their choice and freedom either individually or in community with others and in public or private to manifest their religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching.
2. Migrant workers and members of their families shall not be subject to coercion that would impair their freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of their choice.
3. Freedom to manifest one's religion or belief may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.
4. States Parties to the present Convention undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents, at least one of whom is a migrant worker, and, when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

## **Article 13**

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to hold opinions without interference.
2. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art or through any other media of their choice.
3. The exercise of the right provided for in paragraph 2 of the present article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided by law and are necessary:
  - (a) For respect of the rights or reputation of others;

(b) For the protection of the national security of the States concerned or of public order (ordre public) or of public health or morals;

(c) For the purpose of preventing any propaganda for war;

(d) For the purpose of preventing any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.

## **Article 14**

No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home, correspondence or other communications, or to unlawful attacks on his or her honour and reputation. Each migrant worker and member of his or her family shall have the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

## **Article 15**

No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be arbitrarily deprived of property, whether owned individually or in association with others. Where, under the legislation in force in the State of employment, the assets of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family are expropriated in whole or in part, the person concerned shall have the right to fair and adequate compensation.

## **Article 16**

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to liberty and security of person.

2. Migrant workers and members of their families shall be entitled to effective protection by the State against violence, physical injury, threats and intimidation, whether by public officials or by private individuals, groups or institutions.

3. Any verification by law enforcement officials of the identity of migrant workers or members of their families shall be carried out in accordance with procedure established by law.

4. Migrant workers and members of their families shall not be subjected individually or collectively to arbitrary arrest or detention; they shall not be deprived of their liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedures as are established by law.

5. Migrant workers and members of their families who are arrested shall be informed at the time of arrest as far as possible in a language they understand of the reasons for their arrest and they shall be promptly informed in a language they understand of any charges against them.

6. Migrant workers and members of their families who are arrested or detained on a criminal charge shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release. It shall not be the general rule that while awaiting trial they shall be detained in custody, but release may be subject to guarantees to appear for trial, at any other stage of the judicial proceedings and, should the occasion arise, for the execution of the judgement.

7. When a migrant worker or a member of his or her family is arrested or committed to prison or custody pending trial or is detained in any other manner:

(a) The consular or diplomatic authorities of his or her State of origin or of a State representing the interests of that State shall, if he or she so requests, be informed without delay of his or her arrest or detention and of the reasons therefor;

(b) The person concerned shall have the right to communicate with the said authorities. Any communication by the person concerned to the said authorities shall be forwarded without delay, and he or she shall also have the right to receive communications sent by the said authorities without delay;

(c) The person concerned shall be informed without delay of this right and of rights deriving from relevant treaties, if any, applicable between the States concerned, to correspond and to meet with representatives of the said authorities and to make arrangements with them for his or her legal representation.

8. Migrant workers and members of their families who are deprived of their liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings before a court, in order that that court may decide without delay on the lawfulness of their detention and order their release if the detention is not lawful. When they attend such proceedings, they shall have the assistance, if necessary without cost to them, of an interpreter, if they cannot understand or speak the language used.

9. Migrant workers and members of their families who have been victims of unlawful arrest or detention shall have an enforceable right to compensation.

## ***Article 17***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families who are deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person and for their cultural identity.

2. Accused migrant workers and members of their families shall, save in exceptional circumstances, be separated from convicted persons and shall be subject to separate treatment appropriate to their status as unconvicted persons. Accused juvenile persons shall be separated from adults and brought as speedily as possible for adjudication.

3. Any migrant worker or member of his or her family who is detained in a State of transit or in a State of employment for violation of provisions relating to migration shall be held, in so far as practicable, separately from convicted persons or persons detained pending trial.

4. During any period of imprisonment in pursuance of a sentence imposed by a court of law, the essential aim of the treatment of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family shall be his or her reformation and social rehabilitation. Juvenile offenders shall be separated from adults and be accorded treatment appropriate to their age and legal status.

5. During detention or imprisonment, migrant workers and members of their families shall enjoy the same rights as nationals to visits by members of their families.

6. Whenever a migrant worker is deprived of his or her liberty, the competent authorities of the State concerned shall pay attention to the problems that may be posed for members of his or her family, in particular for spouses and minor children.

7. Migrant workers and members of their families who are subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment in accordance with the law in force in the State of employment or in the State of transit shall enjoy the same rights as nationals of those States who are in the same situation.

8. If a migrant worker or a member of his or her family is detained for the purpose of verifying any infraction of provisions related to migration, he or she shall not bear any costs arising therefrom.

## ***Article 18***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to equality with nationals of the State concerned before the courts and tribunals. In the determination of any criminal charge against them or of their rights and obligations in a suit of law, they shall be entitled to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law.

2. Migrant workers and members of their families who are charged with a criminal offence shall have the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law.

3. In the determination of any criminal charge against them, migrant workers and members of their families shall be entitled to the following minimum guarantees:

(a) To be informed promptly and in detail in a language they understand of the nature and cause of the charge against them;

(b) To have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of their defence and to communicate with counsel of their own choosing;

(c) To be tried without undue delay;

(d) To be tried in their presence and to defend themselves in person or through legal assistance of their own choosing; to be informed, if they do not have legal assistance, of this right; and to have legal assistance assigned to them, in any case where the interests of justice so require and without payment by them in any such case if they do not have sufficient means to pay;

(e) To examine or have examined the witnesses against them and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on their behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against them;

(f) To have the free assistance of an interpreter if they cannot understand or speak the language used in court;

(g) Not to be compelled to testify against themselves or to confess guilt.

4. In the case of juvenile persons, the procedure shall be such as will take account of their age and the desirability of promoting their rehabilitation.

5. Migrant workers and members of their families convicted of a crime shall have the right to their conviction and sentence being reviewed by a higher tribunal according to law.

6. When a migrant worker or a member of his or her family has, by a final decision, been convicted of a criminal offence and when subsequently his or her conviction has been reversed or he or she has been pardoned on the ground that a new or newly discovered fact shows conclusively that there has been a miscarriage of justice, the person who has suffered punishment as a result of such conviction shall be compensated according to law, unless it is proved that the non-disclosure of the unknown fact in time is wholly or partly attributable to that person.

7. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be liable to be tried or punished again for an offence for which he or she has already been finally convicted or acquitted in accordance with the law and penal procedure of the State concerned.

## ***Article 19***

1. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission that did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when the criminal offence was committed, nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time when it was committed. If, subsequent to the commission of the offence, provision is made by law for the imposition of a lighter penalty, he or she shall benefit thereby.

2. Humanitarian considerations related to the status of a migrant worker, in particular with respect to his or her right of residence or work, should be taken into account in imposing a sentence for a criminal offence committed by a migrant worker or a member of his or her family.

## ***Article 20***

1. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of failure to fulfil a contractual obligation.

2. No migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be deprived of his or her authorization of residence or work permit or expelled merely on the ground of failure to fulfil an obligation arising out of a work contract unless fulfilment of that obligation constitutes a condition for such authorization or permit.

## ***Article 21***

It shall be unlawful for anyone, other than a public official duly authorized by law, to confiscate, destroy or attempt to destroy identity documents, documents authorizing entry to or stay, residence or establishment in the national territory or work permits. No authorized confiscation of such documents shall take place without delivery of a detailed receipt. In no case shall it be permitted to destroy the passport or equivalent document of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family.

## ***Article 22***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall not be subject to measures of collective expulsion. Each case of expulsion shall be examined and decided individually.

2. Migrant workers and members of their families may be expelled from the territory of a State Party only in pursuance of a decision taken by the competent authority in accordance with law.

3. The decision shall be communicated to them in a language they understand. Upon their request where not otherwise mandatory, the decision shall be communicated to them in writing and, save in exceptional circumstances on account of national security, the reasons for the decision likewise stated. The persons concerned shall be informed of these rights before or at the latest at the time the decision is rendered.

4. Except where a final decision is pronounced by a judicial authority, the person concerned shall have the right to submit the reason he or she should not be expelled and to have his or her case reviewed by the competent authority, unless compelling reasons of national security require otherwise. Pending such review, the person concerned shall have the right to seek a stay of the decision of expulsion.

5. If a decision of expulsion that has already been executed is subsequently annulled, the person concerned shall have the right to seek compensation according to law and the earlier decision shall not be used to prevent him or her from re-entering the State concerned.

6. In case of expulsion, the person concerned shall have a reasonable opportunity before or after departure to settle any claims for wages and other entitlements due to him or her and any pending liabilities.

7. Without prejudice to the execution of a decision of expulsion, a migrant worker or a member of his or her family who is subject to such a decision may seek entry into a State other than his or her State of origin.

8. In case of expulsion of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family the costs of expulsion shall not be borne by him or her. The person concerned may be required to pay his or her own travel costs.

9. Expulsion from the State of employment shall not in itself prejudice any rights of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family acquired in accordance with the law of that State, including the right to receive wages and other entitlements due to him or her.

## ***Article 23***

Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to have recourse to the protection and assistance of the consular or diplomatic authorities of their State of origin or of a State representing the interests of that State whenever the rights recognized in the present Convention are impaired. In particular, in case of expulsion, the person concerned shall be informed of this right without delay and the authorities of the expelling State shall facilitate the exercise of such right.

## ***Article 24***

Every migrant worker and every member of his or her family shall have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

## ***Article 25***

1. Migrant workers shall enjoy treatment not less favourable than that which applies to nationals of the State of employment in respect of remuneration and:

(a) Other conditions of work, that is to say, overtime, hours of work, weekly rest, holidays with pay, safety, health, termination of the employment relationship and any other conditions of work which, according to national law and practice, are covered by these terms;

(b) Other terms of employment, that is to say, minimum age of employment, restriction on home work and any other matters which, according to national law and practice, are considered a term of employment.

2. It shall not be lawful to derogate in private contracts of employment from the principle of equality of treatment referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article.

3. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that migrant workers are not deprived of any rights derived from this principle by reason of any irregularity in their stay or employment. In particular, employers shall not be relieved of any legal or contractual obligations, nor shall their obligations be limited in any manner by reason of such irregularity.

## ***Article 26***

1. States Parties recognize the right of migrant workers and members of their families:

(a) To take part in meetings and activities of trade unions and of any other associations established in accordance with law, with a view to protecting their economic, social, cultural and other interests, subject only to the rules of the organization concerned;

(b) To join freely any trade union and any such association as aforesaid, subject only to the rules of the organization concerned;

(c) To seek the aid and assistance of any trade union and of any such association as aforesaid.

2. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of these rights other than those that are prescribed by law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public order (*ordre public*) or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

## ***Article 27***

1. With respect to social security, migrant workers and members of their families shall enjoy in the State of employment the same treatment granted to nationals in so far as they fulfil the requirements provided for by the applicable legislation of that State and the applicable bilateral and multilateral treaties. The competent authorities of the State of origin and the State of employment can at any time establish the necessary arrangements to determine the modalities of application of this norm.

2. Where the applicable legislation does not allow migrant workers and members of their families a benefit, the States concerned shall examine the possibility of reimbursing interested persons the amount of contributions made by them with respect to that benefit on the basis of the treatment granted to nationals who are in similar circumstances.

## ***Article 28***

Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to receive any medical care that is urgently required for the preservation of their life or the avoidance of irreparable harm to their health on the basis of equality of treatment with nationals of the State concerned. Such emergency medical care shall not be refused them by reason of any irregularity with regard to stay or employment.

## ***Article 29***

Each child of a migrant worker shall have the right to a name, to registration of birth and to a nationality.

## ***Article 30***

Each child of a migrant worker shall have the basic right of access to education on the basis of equality of treatment with nationals of the State concerned. Access to public pre-school educational institutions or schools shall not be refused or limited by reason of the irregular situation with respect to stay or employment of either parent or by reason of the irregularity of the child's stay in the State of employment.

## ***Article 31***

1. States Parties shall ensure respect for the cultural identity of migrant workers and members of their families and shall not prevent them from maintaining their cultural links with their State of origin. 2. States Parties may take appropriate measures to assist and encourage efforts in this respect.

## ***Article 32***

Upon the termination of their stay in the State of employment, migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to transfer their earnings and savings and, in accordance with the applicable legislation of the States concerned, their personal effects and belongings.

## ***Article 33***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to be informed by the State of origin, the State of employment or the State of transit as the case may be concerning:

(a) Their rights arising out of the present Convention;

(b) The conditions of their admission, their rights and obligations under the law and practice of the State concerned and such other matters as will enable them to comply with administrative or other formalities in that State. 2. States Parties shall take all measures they deem appropriate to disseminate the said information or to ensure that it is provided by employers, trade unions or other appropriate bodies or institutions. As appropriate, they shall co-operate with other States concerned.

3. Such adequate information shall be provided upon request to migrant workers and members of their families, free of charge, and, as far as possible, in a language they are able to understand.

## ***Article 34***

Nothing in the present part of the Convention shall have the effect of relieving migrant workers and the members of their families from either the obligation to comply with the laws and regulations of any State of transit and the State of employment or the obligation to respect the cultural identity of the inhabitants of such States.

## ***Article 35***

Nothing in the present part of the Convention shall be interpreted as implying the regularization of the situation of migrant workers or members of their families who are non-documented or in an irregular situation or any right to such regularization of their situation, nor shall it prejudice the measures intended to ensure sound and equitable-conditions for international migration as provided in part VI of the present Convention.

## ***Part IV: Other Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families who are Documented or in a Regular Situation***

### ***Article 36***

Migrant workers and members of their families who are documented or in a regular situation in the State of employment shall enjoy the rights set forth in the present part of the Convention in addition to those set forth in part III.

### ***Article 37***

Before their departure, or at the latest at the time of their admission to the State of employment, migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to be fully informed by the State of origin or the State of employment, as appropriate, of all conditions applicable to their admission and particularly those concerning their stay and the remunerated activities in which they may engage as well as of the requirements they must satisfy in the State of employment and the authority to which they must address themselves for any modification of those conditions.

### ***Article 38***

1. States of employment shall make every effort to authorize migrant workers and members of the families to be temporarily absent without effect upon their authorization to stay or to work, as the case may be. In doing so, States of employment shall take into account the special needs and obligations of migrant workers and members of their families, in particular in their States of origin.

2. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to be fully informed of the terms on which such temporary absences are authorized.

### ***Article 39***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to liberty of movement in the territory of the State of employment and freedom to choose their residence there.

2. The rights mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present article shall not be subject to any restrictions except those that are provided by law, are necessary to protect national security, public order (ordre public), public health or morals, or the rights and freedoms of others and are consistent with the other rights recognized in the present Convention.

### ***Article 40***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to form associations and trade unions in the State of employment for the promotion and protection of their economic, social, cultural and other interests.

2. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those that are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public order (ordre public) or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

### ***Article 41***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families shall have the right to participate in public affairs of their State of origin and to vote and to be elected at elections of that State, in accordance with its legislation.

2. The States concerned shall, as appropriate and in accordance with their legislation, facilitate the exercise of these rights.

## **Article 42**

1. States Parties shall consider the establishment of procedures or institutions through which account may be taken, both in States of origin and in States of employment, of special needs, aspirations and obligations of migrant workers and members of their families and shall envisage, as appropriate, the possibility for migrant workers and members of their families to have their freely chosen representatives in those institutions.

2. States of employment shall facilitate, in accordance with their national legislation, the consultation or participation of migrant workers and members of their families in decisions concerning the life and administration of local communities.

3. Migrant workers may enjoy political rights in the State of employment if that State, in the exercise of its sovereignty, grants them such rights.

## **Article 43**

1. Migrant workers shall enjoy equality of treatment with nationals of the State of employment in relation to:

(a) Access to educational institutions and services subject to the admission requirements and other regulations of the institutions and services concerned;

(b) Access to vocational guidance and placement services;

(c) Access to vocational training and retraining facilities and institutions;

(d) Access to housing, including social housing schemes, and protection against exploitation in respect of rents;

(e) Access to social and health services, provided that the requirements for participation in the respective schemes are met;

(f) Access to co-operatives and self-managed enterprises, which shall not imply a change of their migration status and shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the bodies concerned;

(g) Access to and participation in cultural life.

2. States Parties shall promote conditions to ensure effective equality of treatment to enable migrant workers to enjoy the rights mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present article whenever the terms of their stay, as authorized by the State of employment, meet the appropriate requirements.

3. States of employment shall not prevent an employer of migrant workers from establishing housing or social or cultural facilities for them. Subject to article 70 of the present Convention, a State of employment may make the establishment of such facilities subject to the requirements generally applied in that State concerning their installation.

## **Article 44**

1. States Parties, recognizing that the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State, shall take appropriate measures to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of migrant workers.

2. States Parties shall take measures that they deem appropriate and that fall within their competence to facilitate the reunification of migrant workers with their spouses or persons who have with the migrant worker a relationship that, according to applicable law, produces effects equivalent to marriage, as well as with their minor dependent unmarried children.

3. States of employment, on humanitarian grounds, shall favourably consider granting equal treatment, as set forth in paragraph 2 of the present article, to other family members of migrant workers.

### **Article 45**

1. Members of the families of migrant workers shall, in the State of employment, enjoy equality of treatment with nationals of that State in relation to:

(a) Access to educational institutions and services, subject to the admission requirements and other regulations of the institutions and services concerned;

(b) Access to vocational guidance and training institutions and services, provided that requirements for participation are met;

(c) Access to social and health services, provided that requirements for participation in the respective schemes are met;

(d) Access to and participation in cultural life.

2. States of employment shall pursue a policy, where appropriate in collaboration with the States of origin, aimed at facilitating the integration of children of migrant workers in the local school system, particularly in respect of teaching them the local language.

3. States of employment shall endeavour to facilitate for the children of migrant workers the teaching of their mother tongue and culture and, in this regard, States of origin shall collaborate whenever appropriate.

4. States of employment may provide special schemes of education in the mother tongue of children of migrant workers, if necessary in collaboration with the States of origin.

### **Article 46**

Migrant workers and members of their families shall, subject to the applicable legislation of the States concerned, as well as relevant international agreements and the obligations of the States concerned arising out of their participation in customs unions, enjoy exemption from import and export duties and taxes in respect of their personal and household effects as well as the equipment necessary to engage in the remunerated activity for which they were admitted to the State of employment:

(a) Upon departure from the State of origin or State of habitual residence;

(b) Upon initial admission to the State of employment;

(c) Upon final departure from the State of employment;

(d) Upon final return to the State of origin or State of habitual residence.

### **Article 47**

1. Migrant workers shall have the right to transfer their earnings and savings, in particular those funds necessary for the support of their families, from the State of employment to their State of origin or any other State. Such transfers shall be made in conformity with procedures established by applicable legislation of the State concerned and in conformity with applicable international agreements.

2. States concerned shall take appropriate measures to facilitate such transfers.

### **Article 48**

1. Without prejudice to applicable double taxation agreements, migrant workers and members of their families shall, in the matter of earnings in the State of employment:

(a) Not be liable to taxes, duties or charges of any description higher or more onerous than those imposed on nationals in similar circumstances;

(b) Be entitled to deductions or exemptions from taxes of any description and to any tax allowances applicable to nationals in similar circumstances, including tax allowances for dependent members of their families. 2. States Parties shall endeavour to adopt appropriate measures to avoid double taxation of the earnings and savings of migrant workers and members of their families.

## ***Article 49***

1. Where separate authorizations to reside and to engage in employment are required by national legislation, the States of employment shall issue to migrant workers authorization of residence for at least the same period of time as their authorization to engage in remunerated activity.

2. Migrant workers who in the State of employment are allowed freely to choose their remunerated activity shall neither be regarded as in an irregular situation nor shall they lose their authorization of residence by the mere fact of the termination of their remunerated activity prior to the expiration of their work permits or similar authorizations.

3. In order to allow migrant workers referred to in paragraph 2 of the present article sufficient time to find alternative remunerated activities, the authorization of residence shall not be withdrawn at least for a period corresponding to that during which they may be entitled to unemployment benefits.

## ***Article 50***

1. In the case of death of a migrant worker or dissolution of marriage, the State of employment shall favourably consider granting family members of that migrant worker residing in that State on the basis of family reunion an authorization to stay; the State of employment shall take into account the length of time they have already resided in that State.

2. Members of the family to whom such authorization is not granted shall be allowed before departure a reasonable period of time in order to enable them to settle their affairs in the State of employment.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of the present article may not be interpreted as adversely affecting any right to stay and work otherwise granted to such family members by the legislation of the State of employment or by bilateral and multilateral treaties applicable to that State.

## ***Article 51***

Migrant workers who in the State of employment are not permitted freely to choose their remunerated activity shall neither be regarded as in an irregular situation nor shall they lose their authorization of residence by the mere fact of the termination of their remunerated activity prior to the expiration of their work permit, except where the authorization of residence is expressly dependent upon the specific remunerated activity for which they were admitted. Such migrant workers shall have the right to seek alternative employment, participation in public work schemes and retraining during the remaining period of their authorization to work, subject to such conditions and limitations as are specified in the authorization to work.

## ***Article 52***

1. Migrant workers in the State of employment shall have the right freely to choose their remunerated activity, subject to the following restrictions or conditions.

2. For any migrant worker a State of employment may:

(a) Restrict access to limited categories of employment, functions, services or activities where this is necessary in the interests of this State and provided for by national legislation;

(b) Restrict free choice of remunerated activity in accordance with its legislation concerning recognition of occupational qualifications acquired outside its territory. However, States Parties concerned shall endeavour to provide for recognition of such qualifications.

3. For migrant workers whose permission to work is limited in time, a State of employment may also:

(a) Make the right freely to choose their remunerated activities subject to the condition that the migrant worker has resided lawfully in its territory for the purpose of remunerated activity for a period of time prescribed in its national legislation that should not exceed two years;

(b) Limit access by a migrant worker to remunerated activities in pursuance of a policy of granting priority to its nationals or to persons who are assimilated to them for these purposes by virtue of legislation or bilateral or multilateral agreements. Any such limitation shall cease to apply to a migrant worker who has resided lawfully in its territory for the purpose of remunerated activity for a period of time prescribed in its national legislation that should not exceed five years.

4. States of employment shall prescribe the conditions under which a migrant worker who has been admitted to take up employment may be authorized to engage in work on his or her own account. Account shall be taken of the period during which the worker has already been lawfully in the State of employment.

### ***Article 53***

1. Members of a migrant worker's family who have themselves an authorization of residence or admission that is without limit of time or is automatically renewable shall be permitted freely to choose their remunerated activity under the same conditions as are applicable to the said migrant worker in accordance with article 52 of the present Convention.

2. With respect to members of a migrant worker's family who are not permitted freely to choose their remunerated activity, States Parties shall consider favourably granting them priority in obtaining permission to engage in a remunerated activity over other workers who seek admission to the State of employment, subject to applicable bilateral and multilateral agreements.

### ***Article 54***

1. Without prejudice to the terms of their authorization of residence or their permission to work and the rights provided for in articles 25 and 27 of the present Convention, migrant workers shall enjoy equality of treatment with nationals of the State of employment in respect of:

(a) Protection against dismissal;

(b) Unemployment benefits;

(c) Access to public work schemes intended to combat unemployment;

(d) Access to alternative employment in the event of loss of work or termination of other remunerated activity, subject to article 52 of the present Convention.

2. If a migrant worker claims that the terms of his or her work contract have been violated by his or her employer, he or she shall have the right to address his or her case to the competent authorities of the State of employment, on terms provided for in article 18, paragraph 1, of the present Convention.

### ***Article 55***

Migrant workers who have been granted permission to engage in a remunerated activity, subject to the conditions attached to such permission, shall be entitled to equality of treatment with nationals of the State of employment in the exercise of that remunerated activity.

### ***Article 56***

1. Migrant workers and members of their families referred to in the present part of the Convention may not be expelled from a State of employment, except for reasons defined in the national legislation of that State, and subject to the safeguards established in part III.

2. Expulsion shall not be resorted to for the purpose of depriving a migrant worker or a member of his or her family of the rights arising out of the authorization of residence and the work permit.

3. In considering whether to expel a migrant worker or a member of his or her family, account should be taken of humanitarian considerations and of the length of time that the person concerned has already resided in the State of employment.

## ***Part V: Provisions Applicable to Particular Categories of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families***

### ***Article 57***

The particular categories of migrant workers and members of their families specified in the present part of the Convention who are documented or in a regular situation shall enjoy the rights set forth in part m and, except as modified below, the rights set forth in part IV.

### ***Article 58***

1. Frontier workers, as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (a), of the present Convention, shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV that can be applied to them by reason of their presence and work in the territory of the State of employment, taking into account that they do not have their habitual residence in that State.

2. States of employment shall consider favourably granting frontier workers the right freely to choose their remunerated activity after a specified period of time. The granting of that right shall not affect their status as frontier workers.

### ***Article 59***

1. Seasonal workers, as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (b), of the present Convention, shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV that can be applied to them by reason of their presence and work in the territory of the State of employment and that are compatible with their status in that State as seasonal workers, taking into account the fact that they are present in that State for only part of the year.

2. The State of employment shall, subject to paragraph 1 of the present article, consider granting seasonal workers who have been employed in its territory for a significant period of time the possibility of taking up other remunerated activities and giving them priority over other workers who seek admission to that State, subject to applicable bilateral and multilateral agreements.

### ***Article 60***

Itinerant workers, as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (A), of the present Convention, shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV that can be granted to them by reason of their presence and work in the territory of the State of employment and that are compatible with their status as itinerant workers in that State.

## **Article 61**

1. Project-tied workers, as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (of the present Convention, and members of their families shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV except the provisions of article 43, paragraphs I (b) and (c), article 43, paragraph I (d), as it pertains to social housing schemes, article 45, paragraph I (b), and articles 52 to 55.

2. If a project-tied worker claims that the terms of his or her work contract have been violated by his or her employer, he or she shall have the right to address his or her case to the competent authorities of the State which has jurisdiction over that employer, on terms provided for in article 18, paragraph 1, of the present Convention.

3. Subject to bilateral or multilateral agreements in force for them, the States Parties concerned shall endeavour to enable project-tied workers to remain adequately protected by the social security systems of their States of origin or habitual residence during their engagement in the project. States Parties concerned shall take appropriate measures with the aim of avoiding any denial of rights or duplication of payments in this respect.

4. Without prejudice to the provisions of article 47 of the present Convention and to relevant bilateral or multilateral agreements, States Parties concerned shall permit payment of the earnings of project-tied workers in their State of origin or habitual residence.

## **Article 62**

1. Specified-employment workers as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (g), of the present Convention, shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV, except the provisions of article 43, paragraphs I (b) and (c), article 43, paragraph I (d), as it pertains to social housing schemes, article 52, and article 54, paragraph 1 (d).

2. Members of the families of specified-employment workers shall be entitled to the rights relating to family members of migrant workers provided for in part IV of the present Convention, except the provisions of article 53.

## **Article 63**

1. Self-employed workers, as defined in article 2, paragraph 2 (h), of the present Convention, shall be entitled to the rights provided for in part IV with the exception of those rights which are exclusively applicable to workers having a contract of employment.

2. Without prejudice to articles 52 and 79 of the present Convention, the termination of the economic activity of the self-employed workers shall not in itself imply the withdrawal of the authorization for them or for the members of their families to stay or to engage in a remunerated activity in the State of employment except where the authorization of residence is expressly dependent upon the specific remunerated activity for which they were admitted.

## ***Part VI: Promotion of sound, equitable, humane and lawful conditions in connection with international migration of workers and members of their families***

### **Article 64**

1. Without prejudice to article 79 of the present Convention, the States Parties concerned shall as appropriate consult and co-operate with a view to promoting sound, equitable and humane conditions in connection with international migration of workers and members of their families.

2. In this respect, due regard shall be paid not only to labour needs and resources, but also to the social, economic, cultural and other needs of migrant workers and members of their families involved, as well as to the consequences of such migration for the communities concerned.

## **Article 65**

1. States Parties shall maintain appropriate services to deal with questions concerning international migration of workers and members of their families. Their functions shall include, inter alia :

(a) The formulation and implementation of policies regarding such migration;

(b) An exchange of information, consultation and co-operation with the competent authorities of other States Parties involved in such migration;

(c) The provision of appropriate information, particularly to employers, workers and their organizations on policies, laws and regulations relating to migration and employment, on agreements concluded with other States concerning migration and on other relevant matters;

(d) The provision of information and appropriate assistance to migrant workers and members of their families regarding requisite authorizations and formalities and arrangements for departure, travel, arrival, stay, remunerated activities, exit and return, as well as on conditions of work and life in the State of employment and on customs, currency, tax and other relevant laws and regulations.

2. States Parties shall facilitate as appropriate the provision of adequate consular and other services that are necessary to meet the social, cultural and other needs of migrant workers and members of their families.

## **Article 66**

1. Subject to paragraph 2 of the present article, the right to undertake operations with a view to the recruitment of workers for employment in another State shall be restricted to:

( a ) Public services or bodies of the State in which such operations take place;

( b ) Public services or bodies of the State of employment on the basis of agreement between the States concerned;

( c ) A body established by virtue of a bilateral or multilateral agreement.

2. Subject to any authorization, approval and supervision by the public authorities of the States Parties concerned as may be established pursuant to the legislation and practice of those States, agencies, prospective employers or persons acting on their behalf may also be permitted to undertake the said operations.

## **Article 67**

1. States Parties concerned shall co-operate as appropriate in the adoption of measures regarding the orderly return of migrant workers and members of their families to the State of origin when they decide to return or their authorization of residence or employment expires or when they are in the State of employment in an irregular situation.

2. Concerning migrant workers and members of their families in a regular situation, States Parties concerned shall co-operate as appropriate, on terms agreed upon by those States, with a view to promoting adequate economic conditions for their resettlement and to facilitating their durable social and cultural reintegration in the State of origin.

## **Article 68**

1. States Parties, including States of transit, shall collaborate with a view to preventing and eliminating illegal or clandestine movements and employment of migrant workers in an irregular situation. The measures to be taken to this end within the jurisdiction of each State concerned shall include:

(a) Appropriate measures against the dissemination of misleading information relating to emigration and immigration;

(b) Measures to detect and eradicate illegal or clandestine movements of migrant workers and members of their families and to impose effective sanctions on persons, groups or entities which organize, operate or assist in organizing or operating such movements;

(c) Measures to impose effective sanctions on persons, groups or entities which use violence, threats or intimidation against migrant workers or members of their families in an irregular situation.

2. States of employment shall take all adequate and effective measures to eliminate employment in their territory of migrant workers in an irregular situation, including, whenever appropriate, sanctions on employers of such workers. The rights of migrant workers vis-à-vis their employer arising from employment shall not be impaired by these measures.

### ***Article 69***

1. States Parties shall, when there are migrant workers and members of their families within their territory in an irregular situation, take appropriate measures to ensure that such a situation does not persist.

2. Whenever States Parties concerned consider the possibility of regularizing the situation of such persons in accordance with applicable national legislation and bilateral or multilateral agreements, appropriate account shall be taken of the circumstances of their entry, the duration of their stay in the States of employment and other relevant considerations, in particular those relating to their family situation.

### ***Article 70***

States Parties shall take measures not less favourable than those applied to nationals to ensure that working and living conditions of migrant workers and members of their families in a regular situation are in keeping with the standards of fitness, safety, health and principles of human dignity.

### ***Article 71***

1. States Parties shall facilitate, whenever necessary, the repatriation to the State of origin of the bodies of deceased migrant workers or members of their families.

2. As regards compensation matters relating to the death of a migrant worker or a member of his or her family, States Parties shall, as appropriate, provide assistance to the persons concerned with a view to the prompt settlement of such matters. Settlement of these matters shall be carried out on the basis of applicable national law in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention and any relevant bilateral or multilateral agreements.

## ***Part VII: Application of the Convention***

### ***Article 72***

1.

(a) For the purpose of reviewing the application of the present Convention, there shall be established a Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee");

(b) The Committee shall consist, at the time of entry into force of the present Convention, of ten and, after the entry into force of the Convention for the forty-first State Party, of fourteen experts of high moral standing, impartiality and recognized competence in the field covered by the Convention.

2.

(a) Members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot by the States Parties from a list of persons nominated by the States Parties, due consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution, including both States of origin and States of employment, and to the representation of the principal legal systems. Each State Party may nominate one person from among its own nationals;

(b) Members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity.

3. The initial election shall be held no later than six months after the date of the entry into force of the present Convention and subsequent elections every second year. At least four months before the date of each election, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a letter to all States Parties inviting them to submit their nominations within two months. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all persons thus nominated, indicating the States Parties that have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties not later than one month before the date of the corresponding election, together with the curricula vitae of the persons thus nominated.

4. Elections of members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of States Parties convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the States Parties present and voting.

5.

(a) The members of the Committee shall serve for a term of four years. However, the terms of five of the members elected in the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election, the names of these five members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the meeting of States Parties;

(b) The election of the four additional members of the Committee shall be held in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the present article, following the entry into force of the Convention for the forty-first State Party. The term of two of the additional members elected on this occasion shall expire at the end of two years; the names of these members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the meeting of States Parties;

(c) The members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election if renominated.

6. If a member of the Committee dies or resigns or declares that for any other cause he or she can no longer perform the duties of the Committee, the State Party that nominated the expert shall appoint another expert from among its own nationals for the remaining part of the term. The new appointment is subject to the approval of the Committee.

7. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee.

8. The members of the Committee shall receive emoluments from United Nations resources on such terms and conditions as the General Assembly may decide.

9. The members of the Committee shall be entitled to the facilities, privileges and immunities of experts on mission for the United Nations as laid down in the relevant sections of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

## ***Article 73***

1. States Parties undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for consideration by the Committee a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures they have taken to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention:

(a) Within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State Party concerned;

(b) Thereafter every five years and whenever the Committee so requests.

2. Reports prepared under the present article shall also indicate factors and difficulties, if any, affecting the implementation of the Convention and shall include information on the characteristics of migration flows in which the State Party concerned is involved.

3. The Committee shall decide any further guidelines applicable to the content of the reports.

4. States Parties shall make their reports widely available to the public in their own countries.

## **Article 74**

1. The Committee shall examine the reports submitted by each State Party and shall transmit such comments as it may consider appropriate to the State Party concerned. This State Party may submit to the Committee observations on any comment made by the Committee in accordance with the present article. The Committee may request supplementary information from States Parties when considering these reports.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, in due time before the opening of each regular session of the Committee, transmit to the Director-General of the International Labour Office copies of the reports submitted by States Parties concerned and information relevant to the consideration of these reports, in order to enable the Office to assist the Committee with the expertise the Office may provide regarding those matters dealt with by the present Convention that fall within the sphere of competence of the International Labour Organisation. The Committee shall consider in its deliberations such comments and materials as the Office may provide.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations may also, after consultation with the Committee, transmit to other specialized agencies as well as to intergovernmental organizations, copies of such parts of these reports as may fall within their competence.

4. The Committee may invite the specialized agencies and organs of the United Nations, as well as intergovernmental organizations and other concerned bodies to submit, for consideration by the Committee, written information on such matters dealt with in the present Convention as fall within the scope of their activities.

5. The International Labour Office shall be invited by the Committee to appoint representatives to participate, in a consultative capacity, in the meetings of the Committee.

6. The Committee may invite representatives of other specialized agencies and organs of the United Nations, as well as of intergovernmental organizations, to be present and to be heard in its meetings whenever matters falling within their field of competence are considered.

7. The Committee shall present an annual report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the implementation of the present Convention, containing its own considerations and recommendations, based, in particular, on the examination of the reports and any observations presented by States Parties.

8. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the annual reports of the Committee to the States Parties to the present Convention, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations, the Director-General of the International Labour Office and other relevant organizations.

## **Article 75**

1. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

2. The Committee shall elect its officers for a term of two years.

3. The Committee shall normally meet annually.

4. The meetings of the Committee shall normally be held at United Nations Headquarters.

## **Article 76**

1. A State Party to the present Convention may at any time declare under this article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Convention. Communications under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party that has made a declaration recognizing in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party which has not made such a declaration. Communications received under this article shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) If a State Party to the present Convention considers that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Convention, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. The State Party may also inform the Committee of the matter. Within three months after the receipt of the communication the receiving State shall afford the State that sent the communication an explanation, or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, pending or available in the matter;

(b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of both States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt by the receiving State of the initial communication, either State shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee, by notice given to the Committee and to the other State;

(c) The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the matter, in conformity with the generally recognized principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where, in the view of the Committee, the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged;

(d) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph ( c ) of the present paragraph, the Committee shall make available its good offices to the States Parties concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of the respect for the obligations set forth in the present Convention;

(e) The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under the present article;

(f) In any matter referred to it in accordance with subparagraph ( b ) of the present paragraph, the Committee may call upon the States Parties concerned, referred to in subparagraph ( b ), to supply any relevant information;

(g) The States Parties concerned, referred to in subparagraph ( b ) of the present paragraph, shall have the right to be represented when the matter is being considered by the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing;

(h) The Committee shall, within twelve months after the date of receipt of notice under subparagraph (b) of the present paragraph, submit a report, as follows:

(i) If a solution within the terms of subparagraph (d) of the present paragraph is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;

(ii) If a solution within the terms of subparagraph (d) is not reached, the Committee shall, in its report, set forth the relevant facts concerning the issue between the States Parties concerned. The written submissions and record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned shall be attached to the report. The Committee may also communicate only to the States Parties concerned any views that it may consider relevant to the issue between them.

In every matter, the report shall be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

2. The provisions of the present article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Convention have made a declaration under paragraph 1 of the present article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General. Such a withdrawal shall not prejudice the consideration of any

matter that is the subject of a communication already transmitted under the present article; no further communication by any State Party shall be received under the present article after the notification of withdrawal of the declaration has been received by the Secretary-General, unless the State Party concerned has made a new declaration.

## **Article 77**

1. A State Party to the present Convention may at any time declare under the present article that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim that their individual rights as established by the present Convention have been violated by that State Party. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party that has not made such a declaration.

2. The Committee shall consider inadmissible any communication under the present article which is anonymous or which it considers to be an abuse of the right of submission of such communications or to be incompatible with the provisions of the present Convention.

3. The Committee shall not consider any communication from an individual under the present article unless it has ascertained that:

(a) The same matter has not been, and is not being, examined under another procedure of international investigation or settlement;

(b) The individual has exhausted all available domestic remedies; this shall not be the rule where, in the view of the Committee, the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged or is unlikely to bring effective relief to that individual.

4. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of the present article, the Committee shall bring any communications submitted to it under this article to the attention of the State Party to the present Convention that has made a declaration under paragraph 1 and is alleged to be violating any provisions of the Convention. Within six months, the receiving State shall submit to the Committee written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by that State.

5. The Committee shall consider communications received under the present article in the light of all information made available to it by or on behalf of the individual and by the State Party concerned.

6. The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under the present article.

7. The Committee shall forward its views to the State Party concerned and to the individual.

8. The provisions of the present article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Convention have made declarations under paragraph 1 of the present article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary-General. Such a withdrawal shall not prejudice the consideration of any matter that is the subject of a communication already transmitted under the present article; no further communication by or on behalf of an individual shall be received under the present article after the notification of withdrawal of the declaration has been received by the Secretary-General, unless the State Party has made a new declaration.

## **Article 78**

The provisions of article 76 of the present Convention shall be applied without prejudice to any procedures for settling disputes or complaints in the field covered by the present Convention laid down in the constituent instruments of, or in conventions adopted by, the United Nations and the specialized agencies and shall not prevent the States Parties from having recourse to any procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with international agreements in force between them.

## **Part VIII: General provisions**

## ***Article 79***

Nothing in the present Convention shall affect the right of each State Party to establish the criteria governing admission of migrant workers and members of their families. Concerning other matters related to their legal situation and treatment as migrant workers and members of their families, States Parties shall be subject to the limitations set forth in the present Convention.

## ***Article 80***

Nothing in the present Convention shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialized agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Convention.

## ***Article 81***

1. Nothing in the present Convention shall affect more favourable rights or freedoms granted to migrant workers and members of their families by virtue of:

(a) The law or practice of a State Party; or

(b) Any bilateral or multilateral treaty in force for the State Party concerned.

2. Nothing in the present Convention may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or perform any act that would impair any of the rights and freedoms as set forth in the present Convention.

## ***Article 82***

The rights of migrant workers and members of their families provided for in the present Convention may not be renounced. It shall not be permissible to exert any form of pressure upon migrant workers and members of their families with a view to their relinquishing or foregoing any of the said rights. It shall not be possible to derogate by contract from rights recognized in the present Convention. States Parties shall take appropriate measures to ensure that these principles are respected.

## ***Article 83***

Each State Party to the present Convention undertakes:

(a) To ensure that any person whose rights or freedoms as herein recognized are violated shall have an effective remedy, notwithstanding that the violation has been committed by persons acting in an official capacity;

(b) To ensure that any persons seeking such a remedy shall have his or her claim reviewed and decided by competent judicial, administrative or legislative authorities, or by any other competent authority provided for by the legal system of the State, and to develop the possibilities of judicial remedy;

(c) To ensure that the competent authorities shall enforce such remedies when granted.

## ***Article 84***

Each State Party undertakes to adopt the legislative and other measures that are necessary to implement the provisions of the present Convention.

## ***Part IX: Final provisions***

## ***Article 85***

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated as the depositary of the present Convention.

## ***Article 86***

1. The present Convention shall be open for signature by all States. It is subject to ratification.
2. The present Convention shall be open to accession by any State.
3. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

## ***Article 87***

1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following a period of three months after the date of the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession.
2. For each State ratifying or acceding to the present Convention after its entry into force, the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following a period of three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession.

## ***Article 88***

A State ratifying or acceding to the present Convention may not exclude the application of any Part of it, or, without prejudice to article 3, exclude any particular category of migrant workers from its application.

## ***Article 89***

1. Any State Party may denounce the present Convention, not earlier than five years after the Convention has entered into force for the State concerned, by means of a notification in writing addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
2. Such denunciation shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of twelve months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
3. Such a denunciation shall not have the effect of releasing the State Party from its obligations under the present Convention in regard to any act or omission which occurs prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective, nor shall denunciation prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter which is already under consideration by the Committee prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective.
4. Following the date at which the denunciation of a State Party becomes effective, the Committee shall not commence consideration of any new matter regarding that State.

## ***Article 90***

1. After five years from the entry into force of the Convention a request for the revision of the Convention may be made at any time by any State Party by means of a notification in writing addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that within four months from the date of such communication at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the

conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties that have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Convention and any earlier amendment that they have accepted.

## ***Article 91***

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall receive and circulate to all States the text of reservations made by States at the time of signature, ratification or accession.

2. A reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the present Convention shall not be permitted.

3. Reservations may be withdrawn at any time by notification to this effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall then inform all States thereof. Such notification shall take effect on the date on which it is received.

## ***Article 92***

1. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention that is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration. If within six months from the date of the request for arbitration the Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in conformity with the Statute of the Court.

2. Each State Party may at the time of signature or ratification of the present Convention or accession thereto declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of the present article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by that paragraph with respect to any State Party that has made such a declaration.

3. Any State Party that has made a declaration in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present article may at any time withdraw that declaration by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

## ***Article 93***

1. The present Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Convention to all States.

## ANNEX II - STATUS OF RATIFICATION AND LIST OF STATE PARTIES TO ICRMW<sup>59</sup>

**Last update:** 27 February 2007  
**Entry into force:** 1 July 2003, in accordance with article 87 (1).  
**Registration:** 1 July 2003, No. 39481.  
**Status:** Signatories: 28, Parties: 35.  
**Text:** Doc. A/RES/45/158.

**Note:** The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by Resolution 45/158 1 of 18 December 1990 at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States in accordance with its article 86 (1).

| Participant             | Signature     | Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d) |
|-------------------------|---------------|---|
| Algeria                 | .             | 21 Apr 2005 a                               |
| Argentina               | 10 Aug 2004   | 23 February 2007                            |
| Azerbaijan              | .             | 11 Jan 1999 a                               |
| Bangladesh              | 7 Oct 1998    | .   |
| Belize                  | .             | 14 Nov 2001 a                               |
| Benin                   | 15 Sep 2005   | .   |
| Bolivia                 | .             | 16 Oct 2000 a                               |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina  | .             | 13 Dec 1996 a                               |
| Burkina Faso            | 16 Nov 2001   | 26 Nov 2003                                 |
| Cambodia                | 27 Sep 2004   | .   |
| Cape Verde              | .             | 16 Sep 1997 a                               |
| Chile                   | 24 Sep 1993   | 21 March 2005                               |
| Colombia                | .             | 24 May 1995 a                               |
| Comoros                 | 22 Sep 2000   | .   |
| Ecuador                 | .             | 5 Feb 2002 a                                |
| Egypt                   | .             | 19 Feb 1993 a                               |
| El Salvador             | 13 Sep 2002   | 14 Mar 2003                                 |
| Gabon                   | 15 Dec 2004   | .   |
| Ghana                   | 7 Sep 2000    | 7 Sep 2000                                  |
| Guatemala               | 7 Sep 2000    | 14 Mar 2003                                 |
| Guinea                  | .             | 7 Sep 2000 a                                |
| Guinea-Bissau           | 12 Sep 2000   | .   |
| Guyana                  | 15 Sep 2005   | .   |
| Honduras                | .             | 9 August 2005 a                             |
| Indonesia               | 22 Sep 2004   | .   |
| Kyrgyzstan              | .             | 29 Sep 2003 a                               |
| Lesotho                 | 24 Sep 2004   | 16 Sep 2005                                 |
| Liberia                 | 22 Sep 2004   | .   |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya  | .             | 18 Jun 2004 a                               |
| Mali                    | .             | 5 Jun 2003 a                                |
| Mauritania              | .             | 22 Jan 2007 a                               |
| Mexico                  | 22 May 1991   | 8 Mar 1999                                  |
| Montenegro <sup>2</sup> | 23 Oct 2006 d | .   |
| Morocco                 | 15 Aug 1991   | 21 Jun 1993                                 |
| Nicaragua               | .             | 26 Oct 2005                                 |
| Paraguay                | 13 Sep 2000   | .   |
| Peru                    | 22 Sep 2004   | 14 Sep 2005                                 |
| Philippines             | 15 Nov 1993   | 5 Jul 1995                                  |

<sup>59</sup> This table is taken from the website of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, <http://www.ohchr.org/english/countries/ratification/13.htm>

|                       |             |               |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Sao Tome and Principe | 6 Sep 2000  | .             |
| Senegal               | .           | 9 Jun 1999 a  |
| Serbia                | 11 Nov 2004 | .             |
| Seychelles            | .           | 15 Dec 1994 a |
| Sierra Leone          | 15 Sep 2000 | .             |
| Sri Lanka             | .           | 11 Mar 1996 a |
| Syrian Arab Republic  | .           | 2 June 2005 a |
| Tajikistan            | 7 Sep 2000  | 8 Jan 2002    |
| Timor-Leste           | .           | 30 Jan 2004 a |
| Togo                  | 15 Nov 2001 | .             |
| Turkey                | 13 Jan 1999 | 27 Sep 2004   |
| Uganda                | .           | 14 Nov 1995 a |
| Uruguay               | .           | 15 Feb 2001 a |

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