

CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Women's Rights are Human Rights!

Equality is an international legal obligation.

The **United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**

obliges the 177 States parties, including Switzerland and its partner states:

- Actively to combat discrimination against women
- To advance women, so that they have the same access to human rights as men
- To eliminate stereotypical role allocation
- To guarantee and to advance equality for women in politics, education, work, social security, health and the family.

The States parties have to report regularly to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on the implementation status of CEDAW. The next country report for Switzerland is due in 2006.

(For further information on CEDAW, go to:

www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/index.html)

Equality is a political obligation:

The Beijing Platform of Action

At the World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, the participating States unanimously approved a Platform of Action.

This lists a number of measures which are to be taken up by governments to achieve male and female equality.

This catalogue of measures serves as a reference political framework for a successful policy on equal rights.

(For further information on the Platform of Action and its implementation, go to:

www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/followup/beijing+5.htm)

