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Bilag	Journalnummer	Kontor	
1	28.B.50.d	MR	7. december 2004

Eksamination af Danmarks 4. rapport til FN's komité for økonomiske, sociale og kulturelle rettigheder

Under den 33. samling i FN's komité for økonomiske, sociale og kulturelle rettigheder, der afsluttedes den 26. november 2004, var Danmarks 4. rapport om gennemførelsen af FN's konvention om økonomiske, sociale og kulturelle rettigheder genstand for eksamination.

Komitéens konklusioner og anbefalinger vedlægges til orientering.

Med venlig hilsen

Per Stig Møller

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**UNITED
NATIONS**



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr. GENERAL
(UNEDITED VERSION)

E/C.12/1/Add.102
26 November 2004

Original: ENGLISH

**COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**
Thirty-third session
8-26 November 2004

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER
ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT**

Concluding Observations of the Committee on
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

DENMARK

1. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights considered the fourth period report of Denmark on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/4/Add.12) at its 34th, 35th, and 36th meetings, held on 10 and 11 November 2004 (E/C.12/2004/SR.34-36), and adopted, at its 56th meeting held on 26 November 2004, the following concluding observations.

A. INTRODUCTION

2. The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the fourth periodic report of Denmark, which was prepared in conformity with the Committee's guidelines, and the written conclusions of the Committee on the report.
3. The Committee welcomes the frank and constructive dialogue with the delegation of Denmark, which included experts in the different areas covered by the Covenant, as well as the participation of the Greenland Home Rule Government.

B. POSITIVE ASPECTS

4. The Committee notes with appreciation the State party's continuing efforts to improve the protection of economic, social and cultural rights in Denmark.

5. The Committee notes with appreciation Denmark's commitment to Official Development Aid (ODA) and its level of contributions, which stands at 0.85 per cent of GDP (2004), and is thus one of the few countries to have gone beyond the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of GDP.
6. The Committee notes with satisfaction the existing legislative and administrative measures taken to combat acts of racism and xenophobia in the State party, and welcomes the enactment in July 2003 of the Act on Equal Treatment irrespective of Ethnic Origin. In this connection, the Committee also notes with appreciation the establishment of a National Action Plan to promote equal treatment and diversity and to combat racial discrimination as a follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
7. The Committee recognises with appreciation the efforts taken by the State party to strengthen the promotion of gender equality in Denmark through its laws, policies and programmes, including the appointment, in July 1999, of a Minister of Gender Equality and the enactment, in May 2000, of the Act No. 388 on Gender Equality.
8. The Committee notes with satisfaction that the unemployment rate is on the decrease, owing to the effective employment policies implemented by the State party.
9. The Committee welcomes the adoption, in March 2003, of the law on combating child pornography, sexual exploitation of children and sale of children, and the establishment, in August 2003, of an action plan on combating sexual abuse of children.
10. The Committee welcomes the measures taken by the State party to combat the phenomenon of trafficking in persons, including the adoption, in June 2002, of the law on trafficking in human beings and the ratification in September 2003 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.
11. The Committee notes with satisfaction the reduction in the number of smokers, owing to the sustained campaign undertaken by the State party to promote a healthy lifestyle, including awareness-raising on the negative effects of smoking.

C. FACTORS AND DIFFICULTIES IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COVENANT

12. The Committee notes the absence of any significant factors or difficulties preventing the effective implementation of the Covenant in Denmark.

D. PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS OF CONCERN

13. The Committee is concerned that the rise in the number of immigrants and refugees arriving in Denmark over the last years has been met with increased negative and hostile attitudes towards foreigners. The Committee also expresses concern about the occurrence of xenophobic incidents in the State party.
14. While appreciating the measures taken by the State party to promote equality between men and women, the Committee remains concerned about the persistent gender inequalities in the State party,