Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Name (Family name, first name): SONG Wenyan

Nationality: China

Date and place of birth: January 6, 1961; Heilongjiang, China

Working language: English

Current position/function:

Deputy Director-General, International Department of All-China Women's Federation; Board member of Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament member of the United Nations Association of China;

Main professional activities:

Ms. SONG has been working for gender equality and women's empowerment since 1998. Having visited over 50 countries, and met with women from all backgrounds, SONG has profound knowledge of gender, human rights and development issues. She was a delegate/observer to almost all major UN conferences on/relating women including the 4th World Conference on Women, Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen, and other international/regional meetings since 1990s, and to almost all UN CSW sessions since 1995; NGO speaker at UN CSW and Human Rights Commission sessions; Organizer/speaker of side events during CSW and Human Rights Council sessions; Participant of international human rights seminars; Speaker of international meetings; Member of drafting groups of outcome documents; Organizer of international conferences on women held in China like Beijing+5, +10, +15 and +20, Women and Sustainable Development etc. SONG has a strong gender equality theory and practice background, used to be a middle school teacher for 3 years.

Educational background:

1996-1997 School of Education of Manchester University, master degree in gender, education and Development; 1996-1998 International Politics and Relations Department of Renmin University of China, bachelor degree in law; 1982-1986 Foreign Languages Department of Northeast Normal University, bachelor degree in English Language and Literature.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women:

Ms. SONG has been involved in CEDAW for long. To sensitize judges, legislators, prosecutors, police, decision-makers, scholars, activists, media people etc to CEDAW and the spirit and main content of CEDAW, promoting the elimination of discrimination against women, Song organized many training workshops on CEDAW in China. To spread CEDAW to people in various parts of China including areas of ethnic groups, she led the translation of CEDAW into ethnic languages, and printing and sending such CEDAW booklets to relevant localities. SONG was part of the drafting

groups of China's combined 3rd and 4th reports and China's combined 7th and 8th reports on its implementation of CEDAW and attended the sessions of CEDAW Committee reviewing these reports. After the reviews, she organized in China workshops about the concluding observations made by CEDAW Committee on the reports of China, with a view to promoting public knowledge of the observations and effects of implementing them.

List of most recent publications in the field of discrimination against women and advancement of their human rights:

My trip to Sudan Women's movement seen through CSW