



**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on
the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

Sixteenth meeting

New York, 28 June 2010

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**Election, in accordance with article 17, paragraphs 4
and 5, of the Convention, of 12 members of the
Committee, to replace those whose terms are due to
expire on 31 December 2010**

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. In a note dated 18 May 2010, the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the decision of its Government to withdraw the nomination of Mary Shanthi Dairiam as a candidate for election to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.
2. In a note dated 31 May 2010, the Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the decision of its Government to present the candidature of Rafiah Suliman Al-Talei instead of that of Ahmed Al-Mukhaini for election to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.
3. The curriculum vitae of the above-mentioned candidate, as furnished by her Government, is attached (see annex).

* CEDAW/SP/2010/1.

Annex

Curricula vitae of candidates

Rafiah Al-Talei

Date and place of birth

22 August 1971

Working languages

Arabic and English

Current position/function

Working as a journalist in a television station, with focus on women's issues in special reports and news stories related to women's issues. Writing articles in websites and magazines and newspapers. Helping women to learn how to write articles and news stories about women's issues and how to advocate women's rights.

Main professional activities

Conducting research for different organizations regarding women's rights and human rights. She has worked for six years with Freedom House. Also she recently gave a speech at George Washington University about women in Oman and the Gulf region. Writing articles about women's issues in Oman on a specialized website that aims to raise awareness among women and society regarding laws and women's rights. Having experienced running for the elections for the Consultative Council in Oman in 2003, she is trying to help women who are interested in running for election, giving advice and support. She has been attending conferences in the Middle East, Europe and the United States of America that discuss women's issues in the Gulf and the Middle East region. She was editor-in-chief of *Almarah* (Woman), which was the only magazine published bilingually (Arabic and English). The magazine focused on and discussed many issues and problems that concerned women in Oman.

Educational background

She has a master's degree in women's writings in the Gulf and a BA in mass communication and journalism. Participated in many workshops and working groups on women's issues such as women in the media, women and election gender studies and other issues that focus on women. Attended many conferences where issues regarding women and Islam, such as women's rights and feminism in Islam, were discussed.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

Worked on research and studies that discussed Oman's position in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Oman's ratification and reservations. Followed closely the progress Oman has made in regard to women's issues in Oman. Participated in conferences that raised issues

related to Oman and articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Has been talking to Oman officials about steps they should be taking to advance women's situation in the country. Supporting civil society initiatives to help women's candidacy for the elections. Advocating for women's rights in Oman in special events and occasions.

List of most recent publications in the field

The chapter on Oman in the Freedom House report about women's rights in the Middle East and North Africa, 2009. It can be found on the Freedom House website.
