## NATIONS UNIES HAUT COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME



## UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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2 August 2011

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the third periodic report of Ireland.

At the end of its 93<sup>rd</sup> session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 25 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 11, 15 and 22 of the concluding observations.

Ireland's follow-up report was submitted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2009. The Committee noted that the information provided was largely satisfactory as a whole, although the information provided in relation to the implementation of paragraph 11 was considered partially incomplete. On 4 January 2010, a letter was sent to your Permanent Mission requesting additional information.

During the 99<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee, held in Geneva in July 2010, the Committee noted that information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. A letter of reminder was sent on the 28 September 2010.

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H.E Mr. Gerard CORR Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations Office at Geneva Fax: 022 919 19 51

On 21 December 2010, additional information was submitted on the referred paragraphs. At its 101st session, held in March 2011, the Committee noted that the answers provided on the mandate of the Cabinet Committee on Aspects of International Human Rights in relation to monitoring traffic through Irish airports (paragraph 11) was largely satisfactory.

Nonetheless, while taking note of the cooperativeness of the State party, the Committee considered that the information was incomplete with regard to the results of the activities developed by the Cabinet Committee (paragraph 11), more especially on the following issues:

- (a) how and how often terrorist acts have been investigated and prosecuted, including information on the length of pre-trial detention and access to a lawyer in practice (paragraph 11):
- (b) the safeguards in place when relying on official assurances (concrete information is required on the safeguard measures taken to rely on official assurances) (paragraph 11).

Finally, the Human Rights Committee noted that its recommendation on the length of pre-trail detention (four months) has not been implemented (paragraph 11).

On the 9 May, a letter was sent to your Permanent Mission requesting that the abovementioned additional information be submitted to the Committee.

During its 102<sup>nd</sup> session held in July 2011, the Committee regretted that the answer to the letter of reminder had not been received. Therefore I write to request that the abovementioned additional information be submitted to the Committee at Your Government's earliest convenience.

The next session of the Human Rights Committee will take place in October 2011. If the State party wishes the referred information to be examined on this occasion, a Word electronic version of the reply should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by 20 September 2011 (Albane Prophette-Pallasco, (aprophette@ohchr.org)).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Irish authorities on the implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Christine Chanet

Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations

Human Rights Committee