



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE: CAT/Follow-up

21 May 2019

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Committee against Torture, I have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the second periodic report of Turkmenistan, in accordance with the Guidelines for follow-up to concluding observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of the 59<sup>th</sup> session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/TKM/CO/2, para. 41) requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 10, 12 and 16 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow me to express appreciation for your letter of 13 December 2017 providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/TKM/CO/2/Add.1) and to make the following comments:

Incommunicado detention and enforced disappearances (para. 10)

The Committee regrets not having received any information regarding the measures taken to implement its recommendations contained in paragraph 10 of the concluding observations (0/D).

Arbitrary arrest, imprisonment and alleged torture and ill-treatment of human rights defenders and journalists (para. 12)

The Committee takes note of the information provided by the State party on the investigation carried out by the Ministry of Internal Affairs into the death of Mr. Altymurad Annamuradov. However, it remains concerned at the State party's failure to conduct a criminal investigation into reports stating that he was abducted and brutally beaten in retaliation for his brother's work as a journalist. In addition, the Committee regrets that the State party has not yet released Mr. Gulgeldy Annaniyazov,

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pursuant to the decisions of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (see A/HRC/WGAD/2013/22). Lastly, the Committee regrets not having received any information on the measures taken to implement its recommendations contained in paragraph 12 of the concluding observations (1/C).

National human rights institution (para. 16)

The Committee welcomes the establishment of the institution of the Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the Ombudsperson Act of 23 November 2016. In this regard, it appreciates the information provided on the mandate of this national human rights institution, but observes with concern that under the Ombudsperson Act, the Parliament elects the Ombudsperson from among three candidates proposed by the President (3/B2).

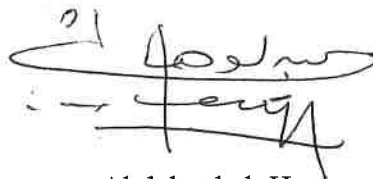
Implementation plan (para. 41)

The Committee regrets that the State party has not provided information about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some of all of the remaining recommendations included in its concluding observations (C).

The Government of Turkmenistan is encouraged to provide additional information, if any, which may further contribute to the Committee's analysis of the progress made regarding the specific issues of concern. This additional information may be provided in any subsequent report by the State party pursuant to the Committee's request in its concluding observations on the second periodic report of Turkmenistan.

The Committee looks forward to a continued constructive dialogue with the authorities of Turkmenistan on the implementation of the Convention.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Abdelwahab Hani  
Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations  
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