29 August 2016

Excellency,

In our respective capacities as Chairperson of the Committee against Torture and Rapporteur of the Committee for Follow-up to Concluding Observations, we have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the third periodic report of Uruguay, in accordance with the Guidelines for Follow-Up to Concluding Observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its 52nd session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee’s concluding observations (CAT/C/URY/CO/3, para. 25) requested the State Party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 9, 12, 13 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow us to express appreciation for your letter of 16 June 2015, providing your Government’s response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/URY/CO/3/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Allegations of torture and ill-treatment in prisons (para. 9)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party but considers that it does not relate in full to its recommendation. In particular, the State party’s follow-up report does not provide information on: the independence of the bodies mandated to process complaints; the number of complaints received through the different complaints mechanisms; as well as on the number of subsequent investigations and prosecutions (2/C).

Juvenile justice and juvenile facilities (paras. 12 and 13)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party but considers that it does not fully address its recommendation. In particular, it regrets the absence of information about any improvements on the standards regarding basic needs in institutions housing juveniles; on the setting up of effective and independent complaints mechanisms; as well as on any investigations into alleged irregularities in the administration of medicines. The Committee remains concerned at the conditions of detention of juveniles (2/C).

H.E. Mr. Ricardo González Arenas
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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The Government of Uruguay 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 third periodic report of Uruguay.

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

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Jens Modvig  
Chairperson  
Committee against Torture

Abdelwahab Hani  
Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations  
Committee against Torture