

REFERENCE: YH/follow-up/Central African Republic/62

14 December 2015

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the combined initial and second to fifth periodic reports of the Central African Republic, at the Committee's fifty-eighth session, held in July 2014. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/CAF/CO/1-5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 53 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Central African Republic to provide, within one year, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 16 and 20 of the concluding observations, namely:

“16. The Committee recommends that the State party, with full support from the international community:

(b) Develop a national strategy to combat impunity in order to ensure that perpetrators of sexual violence during the conflict are brought to justice; investigate, prosecute and punish all cases of violence against women, especially by high-profile leaders who had command responsibility; restore and strengthen the justice system, rebuild the court and prison infrastructure and ensure the security of courts and places of detention, in addition to that of persons working in those institutions; provide sufficient means to the special investigation units; and cooperate with the international commission of inquiry.”

“20. The Committee recalls its general recommendation No. 30 and urges the State party:

(a) To ensure the participation of women at all stages of the peace process in national reconciliation and all reconstruction initiatives, as well as in transitional justice processes, in particular at the decision-making level.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2015, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.

His Excellency
Mr. Léopold Ismael Samba
Permanent Representative of the Central African Republic
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Chemin de Taverney 9
1218 Grand-Saconnex

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The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Central African Republic on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4000 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a Word electronic version of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to cedaw@ohchr.org. For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xiaoqiao Zou'.

Xiaoqiao Zou
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women