



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/Eritrea/67

21 September 2017

Dear Mr. Woldeyohannes,

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 fourth and fifth periodic reports of Eritrea, at the Committee's sixtieth session, held in March 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/ERI/CO/5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 50 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Eritrea to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 9 (b) and 25 (a), (c) and (e) of the concluding observations, namely:

“9. The Committee urges the State party:

(b) To prevent, investigate, prosecute in criminal courts and punish all cases of violence against women and girls during their national service and at the Sawa Military Training Centre, implement a policy of zero tolerance and provide legal aid, rehabilitation programmes and compensation to victims”

“25. In line with its general recommendation No. 23 on women in political and public life, the Committee urges the State party:

(a) To expeditiously hold free and fair elections to the National Assembly and other elected bodies, ensuring that all women, including those from disadvantaged groups and those holding divergent opinions, can vote and stand for election;

(c) To intensify the use of effective temporary special measures, including statutory quotas with sanctions for non-compliance, in accordance with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 on the subject, to promote the equal representation of women in political and public life, in particular in elected and appointed political positions and in the judiciary, targeting decision-making levels;

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(e) To adopt, in cooperation with representatives of women's organizations, a national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and ensure that it takes into consideration the full spectrum of the Council's women and peace and security agenda as reflected in Council resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 2122 (2013)."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in February 2017, only a report exceeding the word limit has been received. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Eritrea on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

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](mailto: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,



Hilary Gbedemah  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women