16 April 2018

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 sixth periodic report of Gabon, at the Committee’s sixtieth session, held in March 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee’s concluding observations (CEDAW/C/GAB/CO/6) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 52 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Gabon to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11 (a) and 17 (a) and (b) of the concluding observations.

In September 2017, the Committee sent a reminder to the Permanent Representative, observing that the information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. The Committee sent a second reminder in November 2017.

In the absence of a follow-up report, the Committee invited the Permanent Mission for a meeting in February 2018. During the meeting on 9 March 2018, the Permanent Representative, the rapporteur on follow-up and the alternate rapporteur on follow-up agreed on the submission of the State party’s follow-up report within one month of the reception of this letter.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Gabon on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response within the mutually agreed deadline, and no later than 9 May 2018.

Her Excellency
Ms. Marianne Odette Bibalou Bounda
Permanent Representative of the Gabonese Republic
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Avenue de France 23 (3rd Floor, Level R)
1202 Geneva

Email: mission.gabon@gabon-onug.ch
Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of 4,000 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,

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