



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: AA/follow-up/Haiti/52

17 September 2012

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 honour to refer to the examination of the combined initial to seventh periodic reports of Haiti, at the Committee's forty-third session, held in January-February 2009. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/HTI/CO/7) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 48 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Haiti to provide, within one year, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 13 and 25 of the concluding observations, namely:

“13. The Committee calls upon the State party to give high priority to its law reform process and establish a clear time frame for the adoption of all pending draft legislation, in particular the draft bills on the recognition of consensual unions, domestic workers' labour conditions and filiation and responsible parenthood, as well as on trafficking in human beings. The Committee also recommends that the State party increase its efforts to sensitize Government officials, the National Assembly and the public to the importance of legal reform to achieve women's de jure equality.”

“25. The Committee, drawing the State party's attention to its general recommendation No. 19 on violence against women, urges it to accord priority attention to the implementation of the national plan of action to combat domestic violence. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt specific legislation on violence against women, including domestic violence and criminalization of marital rape and sexual harassment, and ensure that women and girls who are victims of violence have access to means of redress and protection. The Committee further recommends that the State party introduce and implement gender-sensitive training on violence against women for public officials, in particular the police, the judiciary

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and health-service providers, so as to ensure that they are sensitized and can respond effectively to all forms of violence against women. The Committee calls upon the State party to undertake a national campaign against violence against women, in line with the Secretary-General's initiative of February 2008, in order to modify social and cultural attitudes which are the root causes of most forms of violence targeting women. The Committee requests the State party to provide detailed information in its next report on the laws and policies in place to combat violence against women and the impact of such measures."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in February 2010, 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.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Haiti on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder. Please send a Word electronic version of the information to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to [cedaw@ohchr.org](mailto:cedaw@ohchr.org).

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Bailey  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women