



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

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REFERENCE: MK/follow-up/63/Haiti/71

14 January 2019

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 eighth and ninth periodic report of Haiti, at the Committee's sixty-third session, held in February 2016. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/HTI/CO/8-9) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 58 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Haiti to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 18, 22 (a) and 50, of the concluding observations, namely:

“18. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation (CEDAW/C/HTI/CO/7, para. 19) and calls upon the State party to effectively implement the 30 per cent quota and adopt other temporary special measures with specific targets and incentives, outreach and support programmes, legal sanctions and other proactive results-oriented measures to increase women's participation in political and public life; and to ensure special budget allocations for measures that benefit women in education, rural development and health sectors, in line with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 (2004).”

“22. The Committee, recalling its general recommendation No. 19 (1992) on violence against women, urges the State party:

(a) To expedite the adoption of the draft law on combating violence against women and ensure that it criminalizes rape, including marital rape, incest, and sexual harassment and does not refer to mediation or conciliation cases of violence against women.”

50. “The Committee, recalling its general recommendations No. 21 (1994) on equality in marriage and family relations and No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, reiterates its previous recommendation (CEDAW/C/HTI/CO/7, para. 41) that the State party expedite the adoption of the bill on plaçage and the revision of the Civil Code, in particular the provisions on family law, to ensure that both partners in consensual unions have equal rights and responsibilities during the union and upon its dissolution. The Committee further recommends that the State party consider reversing the burden of proof to establish paternity in claims where this is contested.”

His Excellency
Mr. Pierre André Dunbar
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Although the information sought by the Committee was due in March 2018 and a request to focus on follow-up recommendations was sent by e-mail, on 31 July 2018, only a report, which does not focus on the follow-up recommendations received to date. 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 Haiti 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 **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