



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/Poland/66

26 April 2017

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 seventh and eight periodic reports of the Republic of Poland, at the Committee's fifty-ninth session, held in October 2014. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/POL/CO/7-8) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 49 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Republic of Poland to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 17 and 29 of the concluding observations, namely:

“17. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen the mandate and authority of the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment, provide that office with the conditions enabling it to implement gender equality policies and ensure the implementation of a gender mainstreaming strategy in all government ministries and agencies, as well as at the municipal level;

(b) Increase the financial and human resources of the office of the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment, while providing it with a separate budget to support its gender equality activities and programmes and to ensure effective coordination of government policies on gender equality, and ensure that every ministry allocates a special budget for the effective implementation of the National Action Plan for Equal Treatment.”

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

(a) To amend the Electoral Act with a view to placing candidates, women and men, in alternating positions on electoral lists (so-called “slide” or “zip” system in order to achieve parity;

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(b) To adopt temporary special measures, in accordance with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 on temporary special measures, including quotas, benchmarks with specific time frames and training, in order to achieve equal and full participation of women in political and public life and in decision-making at all levels, including in the judiciary, executive functions at all levels and in international organizations."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in October 2016, 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.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Republic of Poland 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. 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