



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

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30 August 2018

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 96<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of the Convention, and Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year of the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 and 18 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/ARM/CO/7-11), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, at its 92<sup>nd</sup> session held in April-May 2017.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its combined 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 23 July 2020.

#### **Paragraph 14 of the Concluding Observations**

The Committee thanks the State party for the information it provided concerning the draft law on national minorities, consultations held in connection with it, and the planned creation of a specialized body within the Human Rights Defenders Office to handle cases involving discrimination and provide assistance to victims of discrimination. The Committee requests that the State party provide in its next periodic report: (1) provisions of the (draft) law relating to the provisions of the Convention; (2) information on additional measures taken to inform its population about the nature of racial discrimination and the legal remedies available to victims; and (3) statistics on cases of racial discrimination registered, investigated and brought before the courts during the reporting period.

His Excellency Mr. Charles Aznavour  
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to the United Nations Office  
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### Paragraph 18 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee thanks the State party for the information it provided on improvements to its asylum procedures, including the provision of free legal representation and identity documents to asylum seekers, and the establishment of fixed deadlines for processing asylum claims. The Committee would like to receive additional information on certain new aspects of the asylum procedure, and requests that the State party provide in its next periodic report: (1) statistics, disaggregated by nationality or ethnicity, on asylum claims filed, granted and denied; and on claims determined to be manifestly unfounded; (2) the grounds on which a negative asylum decision may be appealed; and (3) implementation of the planned measures to integrate asylum seekers and refugees, including through language and civic orientation courses.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Armenia, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Nouredine Amir  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination