17 May 2018

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 95th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Spain, 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 on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 and 28 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/ESP/CO/21-23), adopted following the consideration of the State party’s combined 21st to 23rd reports, at its 89th session held in April/May 2016.

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 24th to 26th periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 4 January 2020.

Paragraph 12: The Committee thanks the State party for the details it provided concerning Decree-Law No. 16/2012 and the extent to which it and other laws allow undocumented individuals to access public health services. The Committee would like to request that the State party provide in its next periodic report information and statistics on the practical application of these laws, and about measures taken to inform undocumented migrants about their right to obtain health care in certain circumstances and health care providers of their duty to provide such care.

His Excellency Mr. Cristobal Gonzalez-Aller Jurado
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations Office
Geneva
Email: rep.ginebraoi@maec.es
Paragraph 28: The Committee thanks the State party for the information it provided concerning its laws relating to racial discrimination and security forces, but regrets the absence of statistics on incidents of racial or ethnic profiling (e.g. complaints submitted, investigations, prosecutions, sanctions including disciplinary measures, and remedies for victims.) It requests the State party to provide these statistics in its next periodic report.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Spain, 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,

Noureddine Amir
Chair
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination