



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

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30 April 2021

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 103rd session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Iceland, 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 10 and 12 of the Concluding Observations CERD/C/ISL/CO/21-23 adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 21st to 23rd periodic reports, at its 99th session, held in August 2019.

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 24th to 27th periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 4 January 2022.

Paragraph 10 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the preparation of a draft bill proposing the introduction of racist motives as a factor to be taken particularly into consideration by a judge when deciding on an appropriate punishment for a criminal offence. It requests the State Party to provide an update on this bill in its next periodic report. The Committee considers the State party's response to this recommendation partially satisfactory.

Paragraph 12 of the Concluding Observations

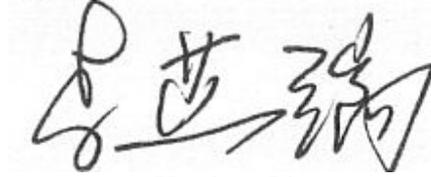
Taking note of the recent announcement of the State party to form a working group to work on the establishment of a national human rights institution (NHRI) in the State party, the Committee considers the response to this recommendation partially satisfactory. It requests the State party to provide, in its next periodic report, an update on the establishment of the NHRI, on its full compliance with the Paris principles, and on its competence to receive and address individual complaints regarding racial discrimination.

H.E. Mr. Harald Aspelund
Permanent Representative of Iceland
to the United Nations Office
Geneva
icedel.genf@utn.stjr.is

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



Yanduan Li
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination