Excellency,

I would like to inform you that in the course of its 97th Session, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination considered information received related to the situation of the Rohingya in India.

The Committee is concerned about allegations that the Rohingya has been the target of hate speech and violence in India, including calls for deportation to Myanmar. The Committee is also concerned about the conditions of detention camps for migrants. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that, as a result of the decision of the Supreme Court, Rohingya may have to return to Myanmar where they have been victims of institutionalised discrimination persecution, hate and gross human rights violation, principally committed by the Myanmar security forces, particularly the military.

Therefore, the Committee is concerned that the manifestations of racial discrimination against the Rohingya in India and their return to Myanmar will infringe their rights protected under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The Committee requests the State party to provide information on the steps taken to:

His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Chander
Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations Office
Geneva
Email: india.geneva@mea.gov.in
1. Ensure sufficient capacity to replace detention camps by reception facilities, providing adequate shelter, basic services, and humanitarian assistance including effective access to health-care services.

2. Fully comply with the obligation of non-refoulement arising out of the international norms concerning refugees and human rights.

In accordance with article 9 (1) of the Convention and article 65 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee requests the State party to submit its response before 8 April 2019.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to continue to engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of India, with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Noureddine Amir  
Chair  
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination