



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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22 December 2016

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 91<sup>st</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Netherlands, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely 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, 24 and 28 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/NLD/CO/19-21), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, at its 87<sup>th</sup> session in August 2015.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 9 January 2019.

**Paragraph 12 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party on the various initiatives taken to condemn hate speech across all sectors. It encourages the State party to carry on with the initiatives mentioned in its response. The Committee regrets however that the State party did not report any progress on the effective investigation and prosecution of racially motivated hate speech and hate crime. The Committee would also be interested in receiving more information on tangible results and the impact of the adopted measures, such as, whether people are aware of all the methods of obtaining free legal assistance; detailed information on the policies that are being drawn up by football clubs, and the results of investigations carried out by the Royal Netherlands Football Association; as well as the impact of agreements concluded between social media companies and the Dutch complaints office on avoiding stereotypes and discriminatory attitudes.

His Excellency Mr. Roderick van Schreven  
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**Paragraph 24 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee appreciates the efforts undertaken by the State party on efforts undertaken towards implementing recommendation on discrimination in employment, such as the termination clauses that are now included in government contracts. It would appreciate receiving information on whether the State party plans on initiating and implementing similar actions against companies outside of those contracting with the Government. The Committee also wishes to receive more information on the impact of the various initiatives the State party has adopted on narrowing unemployment rate among young members of minority groups, and whether these initiatives have been evaluated, and if so the results of such evaluation.

**Paragraph 28 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee notes the steps taken by the State party to maintain a dialogue with the society on integration-related issues. The Committee regrets, however, the lack of information on whether minority groups' representatives were included in such dialogues and whether the dialogue scope extended to discussing and developing programmes aimed at eliminating racial discrimination against minority groups. The Committee therefore requests the State party to include this information in its next periodic report.

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



Anastasia Crickley  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination