



REFERENCE: CERD/101st session/FU/MJA/ks

24 September 2020

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 101st session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Norway, 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 18 (b) and 28 (c) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/NOR/CO/23-24), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 23rd and 24th periodic reports, at its 97th session, held in November-December 2018.

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 25th and 27th periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 19 September 2023.

Paragraph 18 (b) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee notes the enactment of new legislation to strengthen efforts to promote equality and prevent discrimination in the public and the private sectors, as well as the obligation for Government agencies to invite at least one applicant with immigrant background for an interview. It also notes the launch of a pilot scheme with anonymous job applications within the civil service for the period 2019-2020.

Her Excellency Mrs. Tine Mørch Smith
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While welcoming the steps taken by the State party to enhance diversity and increase the recruitment of persons belonging to ethnic minorities or with migrant backgrounds in the public sector, the Committee regrets that the information provided by the State party under “other measures” did not include any concrete details about the content of the tools that have been developed, which makes it difficult for the Committee to assess the impact of such measures for preventing discrimination in the recruitment process. The Committee considers the response to this recommendation partially satisfactory and requests the State party to provide, in its next periodic report, information on further steps taken to prevent discrimination in recruitment processes, in particular discrimination in the interview process, in order to address the low rates of selection of minority candidates. It further requests the State party to provide updated information and data on the implementation and impact of the pilot scheme with anonymous job applications.

Paragraph 28 (c) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee notes that the provision regulating the time-limited residence permit for unaccompanied minors between 16 and 18 years was amended, giving the immigration authorities a list of social and humanitarian factors that should be taken into account when determining their status. It also notes that some unaccompanied minors who have received a time-limited residence permit have been given the opportunity to reapply for asylum and that 137 of them fulfilled the criteria for reconsideration, of which 107 have been granted a residence permit by the Directorate of Immigration. The Committee considers that the response to this recommendation is satisfactory and recommends that the State party provide, in its next periodic report, detailed information on further measures taken to ensure the effective implementation of the 2017 decision of the Norwegian parliament, as well as on their impact.

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