



REFERENCE: CERD/FU/GH/fm

15 May 2015

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 86<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of New Zealand, 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 8, 9, 14 and 17 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/NZL/CO/18-20), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> periodic reports during its 82<sup>nd</sup> session in February-March 2013.

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 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document on 21 December 2015.

**Paragraph 8 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee commends the State party for ensuring the development of the National Plan of Action for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights by the Human Rights Commission in consultation with interested and relevant stakeholders. The Committee urges the State party to guarantee sufficient resources for the implementation of the action plan and requests that it include updated information on the plan as well as inform on its preliminary outcomes in the next periodic report.

Her Excellency  
Mrs. Amanda Ellis  
Permanent Representative of New Zealand  
to the United Nations  
Geneva  
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**Paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes the introduction of the Harmful Digital Communications Bill in to the New Zealand House of Representatives in November 2013. It commends the State party for the implementation of the Committee's recommendation, developing its legislative framework and amending its existing laws to ensure that incitement to racial hatred on the Internet is further dealt with. The Committee encourages the State party to continue with its efforts not only in developing its legislation but also enforcing it.

**Paragraph 14 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee thanks the State party for its response, noting however that the recommendation has not yet been implemented. While noting the response of the State party that the Government's response to Wai 262 is complex and involves a range of agencies, the Committee regrets the delay in implementing the Waitangi Tribunal's decision. Thus, the Committee once again urges the State party to promptly decide on a timetable for the implementation of this decision.

**Paragraph 17 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes the implementation of its recommendation by the Government. It encourages the State party to continue implementing the Māori Language in Education Strategy 2013-2017 and the new Māori Language Strategy. The Committee requests that the State party provide detailed data on the health of the Māori language further to the publication of the results of the Māori Social Survey. The Committee also commends the State party for allocating supplementary funds for specific programmes that aim at revitalising, preserving and protecting the Māori and Pasifika languages.

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



José Francisco Calí Tzay  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination