



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

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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 95th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Oman, 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 20 (b) and 20 (d) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/OMN/CO/2-5), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 2nd to 5th periodic reports, at its 89th session held in April/May 2016.

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 6th to 9th periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 2 January 2020.

Paragraphs 20 (b) and 20 (d) of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided concerning, inter alia, its efforts to improve labor conditions for migrant workers through measures including MOUs with sending countries, labor inspections, and increased accessibility for complaint mechanisms. However, the Committee is very concerned by the lack of information on measures addressed to in-country sponsors / individual employers aiming to prevent exploitative working conditions, physical, sexual and mental abuse, non-payment of wages and confiscation of passports. The Committee is also concerned by the limited information transmitted on the outcome of legal action taken against employers that do not comply with labor standards, in particular, the number of criminal investigations and convictions for various forms of abuse of migrant workers by sponsors and recruitment agencies; the number and type of sanctions imposed on sponsors and recruitment agencies for abuses of migrant workers; and information on the legal services and remedies provided to victims.

His Excellency Mr. Abdulla Nasser Al Rahbi
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The Committee requests that the State party provide this information, including statistics, in its next periodic report, along with the following:

(1) Information concerning protective measures available for migrant workers who have submitted complaints against their employers, and on any shelters that exist for domestic workers fleeing employer abuse;

(2) Information on how migrant workers, who may not freely leave their employment, can access support services in cases of abuse ; and on practical avenues of redress available for migrant workers whose passports have been confiscated by their employers;

(3) Statistics revealing the length of time it takes to make a determination on complaints submitted by migrant workers and outcome of migrant worker complaints settled by the Ministry of Manpower (i.e. indicating whether dispute resolution outcomes favor the employer or the employee);

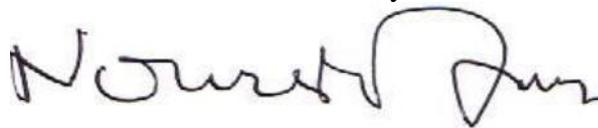
(4) Statistics revealing the number and outcome of complaints concerning non-payment of wages;

(5) Information and statistics concerning absconding charges brought against migrant workers and resulting fines, imprisonment and deportation; and concerning cases where migrant workers have been required to pay the cost of their recruitment to their employers in order to be released from employment.

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



Nouredine Amir
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination