



UNITED NATIONS
**HUMAN RIGHTS
TREATY BODIES**

HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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5 May 2026

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 117th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Qatar, pursuant to article 9 (1) of the Convention and rule 74 (ex-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 13 (a)–(c) (national plans on human rights and against racial discrimination) and 19 (b) and (c) (migrant workers) of the Concluding Observations [CERD/C/QAT/CO/22-23](#) adopted following the consideration of the State Party's combined 22nd to 23rd periodic reports at its 112th session, held in April 2024.

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 next periodic report.

Paragraph 13 (a) and (c) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party regarding the measures undertaken to develop and adopt a national action plan for human rights, in particular, the reconstitution of the National Committee for the Preparation of the National Action Plan for Human Rights in July 2025. The Committee also takes note that the State Party aims at developing the national plan as a practical framework that translates the State's commitments into implementable policies, programmes and initiatives, accompanied by clear and time-bound follow-up, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

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The Committee further notes the information on efforts to ensure the involvement of all relevant national stakeholders from the earliest stages as well as on practical steps adopted to ensure that the participatory process includes various groups and segments of society, which would not be limited to the planning stage, but also extend to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages.

While acknowledging the efforts undertaken by the State Party, the Committee regrets the lack of more detailed information regarding the expected timeline for the completion and adoption of the national action plan for human rights. The Committee considers the response to this recommendation partially satisfactory.

The Committee requests the State Party to include, in its next periodic report, information on the adoption of the national action plan for human rights and to provide detailed information on the specific and measurable indicators included to track progress. It also requests the State Party to include information on the steps taken to ensure that the groups most exposed to racial discrimination, in particular migrant workers, participate actively and fully in the development of the above-mentioned action plan, in the follow-up thereto and in the evaluation of progress made and the outcomes achieved, including information on the establishment of formal and accessible participatory mechanisms that enable the meaningful involvement of migrant workers.

Paragraph 13 (b) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee regrets the absence of information regarding the measures taken by the State Party to adopt a national action plan to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, including structural racial discrimination.

The Committee considers the response to this recommendation unsatisfactory. It requests the State Party to provide, in its next periodic report, information on measures taken to fully implement the recommendation, including on measures adopted to ensure that the groups most exposed to racial discrimination, in particular migrant workers, participate actively and fully in the development of the above-mentioned national action plan.

Paragraph 19 (b) and (c) of the Concluding Observations

While noting the information provided by the State Party that it has abolished the exit permit system in law and in practice, the Committee remains concerned that some migrant workers are still required to have an employer's exit permit in order to leave the country due to the domestic legislation allowing employers to request that up to 5 per cent of their workforce seek prior consent before leaving the country.

The Committee also takes note of the legislative measures adopted by the State Party abolishing the requirement for migrant workers to obtain a no-objection certificate from employers to change jobs. However, it remains concerned at reports indicating the persistence of informal or *de facto* no-objection certificate requirements by employers and Ministry of Labour officials. The



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Committee regrets the lack of information in the response by the State Party on measures taken to prevent and eradicate these reportedly persistent practices.

The Committee considers the response to these recommendations partially satisfactory. It requests the State Party to provide, in its next periodic report, information on measures taken to fully implement these recommendations, including on measures to eliminate any informal or *de facto* no-objection certificate requirements for migrant workers, to strengthen oversight of administrative practices, and to ensure effective access to complaint mechanisms and remedies.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gün Kut'.

Gün Kut
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination