



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND  
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: [registry@ohchr.org](mailto:registry@ohchr.org) – [cedaw@ohchr.org](mailto:cedaw@ohchr.org)

REFERENCE: AA/follow-up/Singapore/56

15 November 2013

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honour to refer to the examination of the fourth periodic report of Singapore, at the Committee's forty-ninth session, held in July 2011. In February 2012, the final version of the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/SGP/CO/4/Rev.1) was transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 42 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Singapore to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 and 32 of the concluding observations, namely:

“14. The Committee calls upon the State party to fully incorporate parts of articles 2 and 16 that are now applicable in the State party and urges the State party to consider withdrawing remaining reservations to articles 2 and 16, and article 11( 1), which are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention, within a concrete time frame.”; and

“32. The Committee encourages the State party to:

(a) Review and amend the existing labour legislation so that it applies to foreign domestic workers, or adopt new legislation ensuring that foreign domestic workers are entitled to adequate wages, decent working conditions, including a day off, benefits and access to complaint and redress mechanisms;

(b) Review and repeal the law requiring a work-permit holder, including foreign domestic workers, to be deported on grounds of pregnancy or diagnosis of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS;

(c) Provide work permits to foreign wives with a social visit pass and review its system of granting citizenship to foreign wives within a clear and reasonable time frame after marriage; and

H. E. Ms. Tan Yee Woan  
Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations  
Avenue du Pailly 10  
1219 Châtelaine

E-mail: [singpm\\_gva@sgmfa.gov.sg](mailto:singpm_gva@sgmfa.gov.sg)



(d) Ratify ILO Convention No. 111, concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, and sign and ratify ILO Convention No. 189, concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2013, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government’s response on the matters, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.”

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Singapore on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay. Please also send a Word electronic version of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to [cedaw@ohchr.org](mailto:cedaw@ohchr.org). For ease reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of Follow-up reports by State parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Bailey  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women