



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/Senegal/68

28 November 2017

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 honor to refer to the examination of the combined third to seventh periodic reports of Senegal, at the Committee's sixty-first session, held in July 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/SEN/CO/3-7) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 45 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Senegal to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 19 and 21 (a), (b) and (d) of the concluding observations, namely:

“19. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure the effective implementation of Law No. 99-05 of 29 January 1999 criminalizing female genital mutilation and of the second national action plan to accelerate the elimination of female genital mutilation (2010 - 2015);

(b) Put in place a comprehensive strategy, in conformity with articles 2 (f) and 5 (a) of the Convention, to eliminate stereotypes that discriminate against women and harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, levirate and sororate, child marriage, polygamy, repudiation, and food prohibitions or taboos. Such measures should include concerted efforts, within a clear time frame and in collaboration with civil society, the school system, the media and traditional leaders, to educate and raise awareness about negative gender stereotypes and harmful practices, targeting women and girls and men and boys at all levels of society”

“21. The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To encourage women to report cases of domestic violence by raising awareness of the legal provisions criminalizing domestic violence and ensure effective access to remedies for victims of domestic violence, taking into consideration their social and economic dependence on their husbands, and issue protection orders when necessary;

(b) To amend the relevant legislation to qualify rape as a serious crime, introduce adequate sanctions for cases of rape and criminalize marital rape;

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(d) To undertake awareness-raising and educational activities, targeted at men and women, as well as training for judges, prosecutors, the police and other law enforcement officials and health-care and social workers, with support from civil society, to eliminate prejudices relating to violence against women such as considering women responsible for the violence that they suffer”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2017, 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.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Senegal on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4000 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. 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. For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Gbedemah
Rapporteur on follow-up
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