



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: ohchr-registry@un.org

REFERENCE: CERD/110th session/2023/FU/MJA/AKB/ks

12 September 2023

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 110th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Denmark, 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 18 (b), 27 and 31 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/DNK/CO/22-24), adopted following the consideration of the State party's 22nd to 24th reports, at its 105th session, held in November/December 2021.

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 combined 25th to 28th periodic reports, which is due for submission, in a single document, by 8 January 2027.

Paragraph 18 (b) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the various planned education initiatives and information materials and requests the State party to provide information in its next periodic report on the effectiveness of these measures on ensuring investigations and prosecutions.

The Committee regrets that it was unable to access the public list of cases on hate crimes referred to by the State party. The Committee invites the State party to provide information in its next periodic report on the number and nature of registered incidents of racist hate speech or hate crimes, the number of prosecutions, and the number of convictions under article 81(6) of the Criminal Code.

H.E. Mr. Erik Brøgger Rasmussen
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations Office,
Geneva
gvamis@um.dk

While noting the information provided on the establishment of a digital police unit, mandated to patrol social media, the Committee regrets the lack of information on how this unit contributes to investigations or prosecutions of racially motivated crimes.

The Committee regrets the lack of information on measures taken to adopt concrete operational measures, examine potential gaps in investigating, prosecuting and applying legislation on hate crimes, and on the establishment of a comprehensive data-collection system; reiterating its recommendation in paragraph 19(b). The Committee invites the State party to provide this information to be provided by the State party in its next periodic report.

As the measures referred to by the State party were either in their design phase or not in keeping with the Committee's recommendation, the Committee considers the response to this recommendation unsatisfactory.

Paragraph 27 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the targeted efforts undertaken to enhance the protection of ethnic minorities from the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular that of the establishment of a coordination group within the Danish Health Authority and the provision of information made accessible through translations and other accommodations.

With respect to measures to build trust within these Communities, the Committee notes with satisfaction the engagement of the State party with civil society and the finding of the State party that trust-building efforts had a greater influence on vaccination uptake than translating information materials. The Committee invites the State party to provide further information in its next period report on trust-building efforts intended to build trust within ethnic minority communities and to enhance their enjoyment of their rights protected by the Convention.

The Committee considers the response to this recommendation as satisfactory.

Paragraph 31 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on various actions directed to address discrimination against persons of African descent, particularly the preparation of a national action plan against racism aiming at fighting and preventing racism broadly across the Danish society through a variety of concrete initiatives. The Committee notes that the State party commissioned a report on the dissemination of knowledge of Danish colonial history, which was produced by a committee involving cultural institutions and relevant organisations. While inviting the State party to provide information in its next periodic report on the outcomes of such a study, the Committee also requests that information on the methodology of the study, in particular that designed to ensure independence, such as through an open call for inputs from civil society and the affected communities.



The Committee invites the State party to provide information on the action plan against racism, expected to be completed in 2023, in its next periodic report. The Committee similarly invites information on methodology and civil society consultations. Lastly, the Committee reiterates its recommendation and invites information on measures to enhance dissemination of knowledge of Danish colonial history through channels other than through cultural institutions and the education system, including dissemination through public awareness campaigns and the media.

The Committee considers the response to this recommendation as partially satisfactory.

The Committee considers the response to this recommendation as satisfactory.

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

Verene Shepherd
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination