



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

In our capacity as Chair and Co-Rapporteur for follow-up to concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, we have the honour to refer to the examination of the third periodic report submitted by Uzbekistan at the Committee's seventy-first session held in 2022 (E/C.12/UZB/3). In the concluding observations (E/C.12/UZB/CO/3), the Committee requested Uzbekistan to provide, within 24 months, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 13, 21, and 33 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report (E/C.12/UZB/FCO/3) received on 16 April 2024 under its follow-up procedure. The Committee examined the report at its seventy-seventh session, held from 10 to 28 February 2025, and wishes to communicate the following assessment:

**Paragraph 13 (a-c): Corruption – Overall Assessment: Partial Progress**

The Committee notes with appreciation the measures taken by the State party to combat corruption, including the adoption of the *Act on Combating Corruption* (2017), the *State Program on Combating Corruption* (2023–2024), and the *Strengthening the National Anti-Corruption Ecosystem in Uzbekistan*. The Committee welcomes the introduction of the transparency index, the Anti-Corruption Sphere project, and the e-platform (*hrm.args.uz*), which aim to enhance public oversight and reduce corruption risks in public bodies and organizations.

The Committee also commends the State party's efforts to foster a zero-tolerance attitude towards corruption through the *Uzbekistan 2030 Strategy*, which emphasizes transparency and accountability in public institutions. Furthermore, the Committee welcomes the establishment of multiple communication channels for reporting corruption, including an official website, social media pages, a hotline, and the *e-anticor.uz* platform, which allows citizens to report corruption promptly.

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However, the Committee remains concerned about several issues:

- The independence and transparency of the Anti-Corruption Agency, particularly given the appointment of its leadership by recommendation of the President of the State party.
- The lack of effective protective measures for anti-corruption activists, whistleblowers, and witnesses, as reports indicate that law enforcement authorities regularly arrest civic activists and journalists on questionable charges.
- The absence of detailed information on the outcomes of anti-corruption measures, including statistics on prosecutions, convictions, and the impact of these measures on reducing corruption risks in public bodies.

The Committee concludes that while the State party has made significant progress in combating corruption, further efforts are needed to ensure the independence of the Anti-Corruption Agency, strengthen whistleblower protections, and provide transparent data on the outcomes of anti-corruption measures. The Committee assesses the overall progress as partial.

**Paragraph 21 (a-f): Non-discrimination – Overall Assessment: Partial Progress**

**Para 21 (a-c) – Assessment: No Progress**

The Committee regrets that the State party has not made progress in implementing key legislative reforms to combat discrimination.

The Committee notes that while the State party has taken some steps to protect the rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS, such as ensuring confidentiality in medical examinations, it has not addressed broader systemic discrimination in laws and policies.

**Para 21 (d-e) – Assessment: Partial Progress**

The Committee notes the State party's efforts to implement practical measures to combat discrimination, including:

(d) The establishment of various laws, codes, and legislative provisions aimed at promoting non-discrimination. However, the Committee regrets the lack of information on actual mechanisms to ensure that victims of discrimination can seek redress. The State party has not provided sufficient details on how victims can access justice or obtain remedies for discrimination.

(e) The organization of training and awareness-raising campaigns for health workers, judges, and law enforcement officers on non-discrimination and human rights. These efforts indicate the State party's intention to integrate human rights into administrative practices and operations, particularly regarding persons living with HIV/AIDS.

**Para 21 (f) – Assessment: Sufficient Progress**

The Committee notes with appreciation the concrete measures taken by the State party to be guided by its *General Comment No. 20* (2009) on non-discrimination in economic, social, and cultural rights. The Committee welcomes the establishment of a working group to draft a national plan of action on non-discrimination and the workshops conducted to explain the substance of *General Comment No. 20*. These efforts

demonstrate the State party's commitment to aligning its policies and practices with international human rights standards.

The Committee concludes that while the State party has made some progress in addressing non-discrimination, particularly through training programs and consideration of *General Comment No. 20*, significant gaps remain in legislative reforms and the establishment of mechanisms for redress. The Committee assesses the overall progress as partial.

**Paragraph 33: Youth Unemployment – Assessment: Partial Progress**

The Committee commends the State party for its efforts to address youth unemployment, including the organization of short courses in 174 vocational educational institutions, which have trained 25,434 young and unemployed citizens, including 12,209 women, in various trades such as brickwork, carpentry, tailoring, and electric work. The Committee also welcomes the development of youth employment programmes at multiple levels, ranging from local community (*mahalla*) to regional levels, which have employed 452,000 young people and school leavers in 2023, transforming 2,620 *mahallas* into “zones free from youth unemployment.”

Additionally, the Committee notes the allocation of 3.8 billion sum in loan funds to 174,000 young people to support their entrepreneurial activities, as well as the allocation of 67,000 hectares of land to 163,000 young people interested in agriculture. The creation of 23,464 new jobs through the launch of 1,054 projects in 210 “youth industrial and entrepreneurial zones” is also a positive step towards supporting young entrepreneurs in the industry and service sectors.

However, the Committee regrets the absence of a special focus on women in these initiatives. The Committee also notes the lack of detailed information on the long-term impact of these programmes on reducing youth unemployment and improving the economic prospects of young people, particularly in rural areas.

The Committee concludes that while the State party has made significant progress in addressing youth unemployment, further efforts are needed to ensure a gender-sensitive approach and to provide detailed information on the long-term outcomes of these initiatives. The Committee assesses the implementation of the recommendations in paragraph 33 as partial progress.

The State party is requested to provide detailed information in its next periodic report on the measures taken to address all its concerns and the progress achieved.

The Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the State party, with a view to providing guidance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



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Co-Rapporteur for follow-up  
Committee on Economic, Social and  
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Laura-Maria Crăciunean-Tatu  
Chair  
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