



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/62/United Arab Emirates/69

13 April 2018

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 second and third periodic report of the United Arab Emirates, at the Committee's sixty-second session, held in November 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/ARE/CO/2-3) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 54 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the United Arab Emirates to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 36 and 44 (a), (d) and (e) of the concluding observations, namely:

“36. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation that the State party grant Emirati women the same rights as Emirati men to acquire, change and retain their nationality and to confer it on their children and foreign spouse. In this regard, it recommends that the State party revise its national law, withdraw its reservation to article 9 of the Convention and ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (see CEDAW/C/ARE/CO/1, para. 33). The Committee also recommends that the State party regularize the situation of stateless families and ensure their right to a nationality without discrimination.”

“44. The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To put an end to the kafalah system, accelerate the adoption of the bill on domestic workers and ensure that women migrant domestic workers are covered by the protection of the Labour Code;

(d) To effectively prosecute and punish abusive employers and ensure that women domestic workers who are victims of sexual violence are not prosecuted for zina offences;

(e) To strictly enforce the prohibition of passport confiscation and ensure regular labour inspections of private households in which women migrant domestic workers are employed.”

His Excellency
Mr. Obaid Salem Saeed Al Zaabi
Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the United Arab Emirates
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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1209 Geneva

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The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the United Arab Emirates 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 **4,000 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hilary Gbedemah'.

Hilary Gbedemah
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women