



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE:KJ/fup-109

2 December 2013

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the second periodic report of Kuwait.

At the end of its 103rd session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 33 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 18, 19 and 25 of the concluding observations.

On 27 April 2012, follow-up information on the referred paragraphs was received. At its 106th session held in October 2012, the Committee analysed the follow-up reply provided by the State party and decided that additional information was necessary.

On 6 April 2013, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 109th session held in October 2013, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 18: The Committee considered that the recommendation has not yet been implemented, and that the State party's reply did not provide new information with regard to the creation of the general authority. The Committee considered it necessary to request additional information on the expected timeline for the creation of the authority mentioned in accordance with Act No. 6/2010, and on measures taken by the authority to "eliminate the negative aspects of the sponsorship system", since the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations.
- Paragraph 19: The Committee noted that the State party has made substantial progress in implementing the recommendation contained in paragraph 19, but considered that additional information remains necessary on the application of the new law adopted.

His Excellency
Mr. Jamal M. I. Alghunaim
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
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- Paragraph 25: The Committee noted that the exercise of the freedom of expression has become more of a concern since the last review. It also noted that the State party has not withdrawn from its previous stand that the freedom of expression falls outside the mandate of the Ministry of Interior, with a resulting lack of reply on the implementation of paragraph 25 of the Committee's concluding observations. The Committee considered that the State party has not provided any information on measures taken to comply with paragraph 25 and decided not to request additional information from the State party on the implementation of paragraph 25.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in March 2014. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in a Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **5 January 2014** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Kuwaiti authorities on the implementation of the Covenant.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fabián Omar Salvioli'.

Fabián Omar Salvioli
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee