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3 April 2013

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the examination of the sixth periodic report of Jamaica at the 103rd session of the Committee.

At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 27 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 8, 16 and 23 of the concluding observations. On 19 November 2012, the Committee received the follow-up report of the State party. The Committee analysed the information provided at its 107th session in March 2013, and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 8: the Committee considered that the recommendation has not been implemented: State party's legislation has not been amended to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation and gender identity; sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex have not been decriminalized; no information is provided on the way the Anti-Bullying initiative is supported by the State party and on the measures taken to ensure that individuals who incite violence against homosexuals are investigated, prosecuted and properly sanctioned.
- Paragraph 16: the Committee considered that additional measures remain necessary to encourage the presentation of claims by the victims of extra judicial killings and to promote the investigation and sanction of these cases.

The Committee also noted that the State party did not provide any information on the remedies provided to victims of extra judicial killings.

His Excellency Mr. Wayne McCook . Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative - Paragraph 23: the Committee considered that additional information remains necessary on (i) the proportion of detained girls who still have to share a common space with women; (ii) the measures taken to implement the National Plan of Action on Child Justice (2010-2014); (iii) the proportion of cases in which non-custodial sentences have been applied, and (iv) the results of the 2011 review of parole system.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in October 2013. If the State party wishes the referred information 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 1 July 2013 (ccpr@ohchr.org and Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org).

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

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

Christine Chanet
Special Rapporteur
Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee