HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: AA/follow-up/Liechtenstein/55

27 August 2013

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 honour to refer to the examination of the fourth periodic report of Liechtenstein, at the Committee's forty-eighth session, held in February 2011. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/LIE/CO/4) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 46 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Liechtenstein to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraph 25 and 29 of the concluding observations, namely:

"25. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Apply a standard procedure for identifying victims of sexual or gender-based violence when considering the admissibility of asylum applications on formal grounds or the return of applicants;
- (b) Ensure that international protection needs are determined comprehensively, including by recognizing refugee claims on the basis of sexual or gender-based violence and by taking into account the factual situation of asylum-seeking women and girls in their countries of origin;
- (c) Ensure a gender-sensitive approach throughout the refugee status determination procedure by providing special rights such as counselling services for female asylum-seekers, in line with article 23, paragraph 6, of the State party's Refugee Act."; and

"29. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt temporary special measures, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25, such as statutory quota, a gender parity system for nominations for Government bodies, and conditioning the financing of political parties on equal representation of women in their internal bodies and on candidate lists, to increase the representation of women in decision-making positions in elected and appointed political bodies;

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(b) Provide training on gender equality to civil servants and politicians, especially men, with a view to enhancing the understanding that full and equal participation of women and men in political and public life is a requirement for the full implementation of the Convention, and thus creating a more favourable environment for women's participation in political and public life."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in February 2013, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Liechtenstein on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay. 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 reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of Follow-up reports by State parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Dais

Barbara Bailey Rapporteur on follow-up

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women