



REFERENCE: AA/follow-up/ Côte d'Ivoire /57

8 April 2014

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 combined initial to third report of Côte d'Ivoire, at the Committee's fiftieth session, held in October 2011. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/CIV/CO/1-3) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 50 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Côte d'Ivoire to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraph 29 and 35 of the concluding observations, namely:

“29. The Committee urges the State party to:

- (a) Ensure that those responsible for violations of the human rights of women during the post-electoral crisis are brought to justice and that all acts of sexual violence are punished;
- (b) Initiate a thorough and complete investigation into the perpetration of sexual abuse by defence and security forces and their allies (militias and mercenaries), the Forces Républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire (FRCI) and private actors during the post-electoral crisis, ensuring that inquiries are conducted exhaustively, impartially and transparently; and request the United Nations to ensure that UNOCI peacekeepers suspected of committing sexual exploitation and abuse are returned to the sending State(s) with a request to initiate domestic investigations and prosecutions;
- (c) Take comprehensive measures to provide medical and psychological support to women victims of the sexual crimes committed during the 2002-2007 conflict and covered by the 2007 Ordinance providing amnesty for most crimes committed during the conflict, including systematic acts of sexual violence;
- (d) Ensure access to justice and to legal aid for all women affected by violence related to the post-electoral crisis, including women victims of sexual violence;
- (e) Strengthen the measures taken to establish counselling centres for women to address their traumatic experiences, specifically with regard to sexual violence, and provide adequate access to health-care services;

H. E. Mr. Kouadio Adjoumani  
Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations  
Route de Ferney 149H  
1218 Grand-Saconnex

E-mail: [cotedivoire@bluewin.ch](mailto:cotedivoire@bluewin.ch)

(f) Ensure the security of internally displaced women and allocate more resources to meet their needs, in particular their access to a livelihood, water and education for themselves and their children;

(g) Implement economic and social rights in post-conflict reconstruction;

(h) Ensure effective implementation of the National Plan of Action for the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325, in connection with the implementation of the Convention, and ensure that victims of sexual crimes receive appropriate reparations and rehabilitation, including by mobilizing international funding to this effect;

(i) Enhance inclusion and representation of women in institutions and mechanisms on peacebuilding at the decision-making, policymaking and implementation levels; and

(j) Facilitate cooperation with the International Criminal Court and consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

“35. The Committee recalls its general recommendations No. 23 (1997) on women in political and public life and No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures, and recommends that the State party:

(a) Enact, without delay, the draft ordinance providing for a 30 per cent quota for women’s representation in Parliament;

(b) Implement awareness-raising activities for society as a whole on the importance of women’s participation in decision-making, and develop targeted training and mentoring programmes on leadership and negotiation skills for current and potential women candidates and women holding public office;

(c) Ensure the inclusion of women in all areas of public life, in particular the gendarmerie, police and judiciary, including at high levels of decision-making; and

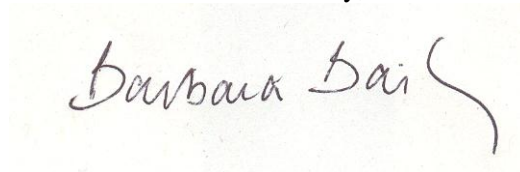
(d) Carefully monitor the effectiveness of measures taken and results achieved to ensure women’s greater participation in political and public life.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in October 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 Côte d’Ivoire 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](mailto: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 Bailey  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women