



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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30 August 2018

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 96th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of the Convention, and Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year of the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 19 and 21 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/URY/CO/21-23), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined twenty-first to twenty-third periodic reports, at its 92nd session held in April-May 2017.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its combined twenty-fourth to twenty-sixth periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 4 January 2020.

Paragraph 19 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee thanks the State party for the information it provided concerning the Working Group on Racial Equity Policies, various awareness initiatives surrounding the Afro-descendent population, and progress made towards fulfilling the 8% quota for Afro-descendants in public agencies, as specified in Law No. 19.122. The Committee is concerned by the lack of information on measures taken to promote participation of Afro-descendants in decision-making positions in the private sector. The Committee requests that the State party provide this information in its next report, as well as updated statistics on the aforementioned 8% quota, and statistics on Afro-descendants occupying high-level decision-making positions in the judicial, executive and legislative branches of government.

His Excellency Mr. Ricardo González Arenas
Permanent Representative of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay
to the United Nations Office
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Paragraph 21 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee thanks the State party for the information it provided concerning activities of the Working Group on Inclusion of the Ethno-Racial Afro-descendent Perspective in Education, and concerning financial assistance and scholarships awarded to Afro-descendent secondary and post-graduate students in accordance with Act No. 19122. The Committee is concerned by the State party's information that it remains difficult to ensure that an alternative perspective is included in all scholarship programmes in order to meet the quotas for students of African descent. The Committee requests that the State party provide in its next periodic report information and updated statistics, disaggregated by ethnicity, on educational attainment, school dropout rates, and educational financial assistance provided. The Committee encourages the State party to continue applying affirmative action understood as special measures provided in article 2 of the Convention.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

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

Yours sincerely,

Noureddine Amir
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination