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12 March 2010

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 76<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Austria, pursuant to Rule 65(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14, 17, and 23 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/AUT/CO/17, August 2008), adopted following the consideration of the State party's 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> periodic reports. The Committee thus appreciates the opportunity provided to continue the 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 action taken by the State party on these issues be included in its 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by June 2011.

**Paragraph 14 of the Concluding Observations.** The Committee wishes to thank the State party for the information provided but regrets the absence of concrete updates provided on developments that occurred after consideration of the State party report on the 14 August 2008. The Committee therefore reiterates its recommendation and urges the State party to continue its efforts to find an appropriate solution to the implementation of the 2001 decision of the Constitutional Court and request information to be submitted in the next State party report on the process to secure the rulings of the Constitutional Court on the basis of the highest possible consensus.

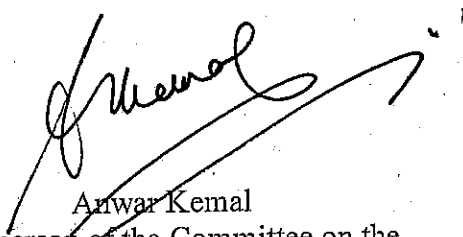
H.E. Mr. Christian Strohal  
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**Paragraph 17 of Concluding Observations.** The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided and commends its efforts to house detainees awaiting deportation in facilities that meet adequate national and international standards. The Committee also takes note of the downward trend in numbers of those detained pending deportation. The Committee expresses regret, however, that updated information on concrete measures to improve the humane treatment of those detained was not included, nor was specific information on the efforts being made to reduce the period of detention of those awaiting deportation. The Committee reiterates the requests made in its recommendations and invites the State party to include updated information in its next report.

**Paragraph 23 of Concluding Observations.** The Committee wishes to thank the State party for the information provided and welcomes its efforts and consultative process to prepare a National Action Plan for Integration. The Committee congratulates the State party on the steps it has taken and encourages it to move forward.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anwar Kemal', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Anwar Kemal  
Chairperson of the Committee on the  
Elimination of Racial Discrimination