

REFERENCE: BJ/follow-up/Thailand/78

5 March 2021

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 sixth and seventh periodic reports of Thailand, at the Committee's sixty-seventh session, held in July 2017. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/THA/CO/6-7](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 58 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Thailand to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 23 (b) and (e) and 43 (c) and (d) of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report received with a nine-month delay in April 2020 ([CEDAW/C/THA/FCO/6-7](#)) under the CEDAW follow-up procedure. At its seventy-eighth session, held remotely due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in February 2021, the Committee examined this follow-up report and adopted the following assessment.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 23 (b)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to **“increase its efforts to end the conflict in the southern border provinces and ensure that the military, law enforcement officials and non-State armed groups abide by international humanitarian and human rights law, in particular with regard to the protection of women and girls who are not engaged in conflict from all forms of violence”**:

The Committee welcomes the information by the State party that the number of incidents of violence in the southern border provinces has decreased and the information on the adoption of the Southern Border Provinces Administration and Development Plan (2017–2019), which promoted a multicultural society by acknowledging different ethnicities and religions and languages, as well as the budget allocation for implementing projects and programmes to create transformative conditions and progressive approaches to end the violence in the region, such as poverty alleviation programmes and income generation activities for all members of society, including women. The Committee also notes the establishing in 2019 of the Coordination Center for Children and Women in Southern Border Provinces, which serves as a cooperation platform for government agencies and civil society organizations to synergize their efforts to improve the living conditions of children and women in the area and ensure the implementation of projects to empower women and girls, such as the village and community development project to enhance the participation of women in the villages' committees. The Committee further notes the human rights capacity building programmes organized by different governmental entities targeting government officers, law enforcement and armed forces officers, as well as the inclusion of human rights and humanitarian law in the core curriculum of the sergeant's school. The

His Excellency Mr. Sek Wannamethee
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Thailand
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Email: thaimission.GVA@mfa.mail.go.th

Committee considers that there is a need to strengthen further the rehabilitation services for women and girls affected by the conflict in the southern border provinces.

The Committee considers that the State party has provided evidence that it has taken action towards the implementation of the recommendation, but that it needs to take further action to implement all measures recommended by the Committee. It considers that the recommendation has been **partially implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is thorough and extensive, and that it relates directly to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **satisfactory**.

In relation to the recommendation made in **paragraph 23 (e)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**adopt, without further delay, a comprehensive national action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) on women and peace and security, to ensure durable peace in the State party**”:

The Committee notes with appreciation the information by the State party on the adoption of the national measures and guidelines on women, peace and security (2017–2021), which promotes the protection of women, access to justice for all, women’s participation in peacebuilding and security, and ensure coordination among different stakeholders. The Committee further notes the organization of annual consultation to review the national action plan with the participation of leader women from the southern border provinces to address the needs of women and girls in their local context and advocates for economic opportunities, social cohesion and community resilience. The Committee considers that the State party has provided evidence of the full implementation of the recommendation. It considers that the recommendation has been **implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is thorough and extensive, and that it relates directly to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 23 (b)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Continue efforts to end the conflict in the southern border provinces and ensure that the military, particularly by providing rehabilitation services to women and girls affected by the conflict.

With regard to the recommendation made in **paragraph 43 (c)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**ensure effective consultations with women from affected communities with regard to the zoning of national parks and the economic exploitation of lands and territories traditionally occupied or used by them and that it secures the free, prior and informed consent of the women affected and provide adequate compensation as necessary**”:

The Committee welcomes the information that the Constitution of 2017 requests conducting environmental impact assessment and organizing public hearing regarding any project by the State or any person that may affect the natural resources, environmental quality, health, sanitation, quality of life or any other essential interests of the people or community or environment. The Committee notes the inclusion of the right to receive information, explanation and reasons from a State agency prior to the implementation or granting of that permission of similar projects. The Committee further notes the legislative reform through the adoption of the National Parks Act (2019), the Wildlife Reservation and Protection Act (2019), the National Land Policy Committee Act (2019), and the Community Forest Act (2019), which include guarantees and safeguards such as granting permissions to reside in or utilize the national parks, forests,

wildlife sanctuary areas or non-hunting zones. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned about the lack of information about measures to ensure the participation of women from affected communities in the public consultation process.

The Committee take notes of the constitutional guarantee to provide effective remedies for the affected people or community in a fair manner without delay. However, the Committee is concerned about the lack of information on the provision of compensation for women and communities affected by zoning of national parks and the economic exploitation of lands and territories.

The Committee considers that the State party has provided evidence that it has taken action towards the implementation of the recommendation, but that it needs to take further action to implement all measures recommended by the Committee. It considers that the recommendation has been **partially implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is thorough and extensive, and that it relates directly to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **satisfactory**.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 43 (d)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**ensure that rural women are included in the national road map to realize Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals**”:

The Committee welcomes the information that the number of girls attending primary and secondary has increased in rural areas, as well as the establishment of eight Women and Family Development Learning Centres in different regions. The Committee takes note of the information on the steps taken to develop projects and measures to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and information. The Committee also notes the projects implemented by the State party regarding the empowerment of women and girls, such as the participating of women and girls in communities in pilot projects in local tourism and market management and the inclusion of the needs of women in the public decision-making process, in cooperation with civil society organizations. Nevertheless, the Committee regrets the lack of information on how women are included in the national road map to realize Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the women development strategy (2017-2021) and its action plan.

The Committee notes the information by the State party on the ongoing efforts to develop an action plan on the elimination of violence against women and reviewing laws and regulations related to the promotion and protection of women’s and children’s rights. The Committee regards this as an opportunity to further strengthen the inclusion of women in the national frameworks to realize Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps towards the implementation of the recommendation, but that it needs to take further action to implement it. The Committee considers that the recommendation has been **partially implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is thorough and extensive, but that it fails to respond fully to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 43 (c) and (d)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Ensure the effective participation of women in the public consultations with communities regarding the zoning of national parks and the economic exploitation of lands and territories traditionally and provide adequate compensation as necessary;



Review the Women Development Strategy and its action plan and ensure the inclusion of rural women in other frameworks related to Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Louiza Chalal'.

Louiza Chalal
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women