



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org – cedaw@ohchr.org

REFERENCE: MK/follow-up/68/Kenya/75

11 March 2020

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 honor to refer to the examination of the eighth periodic report of Kenya, at the Committee's sixty-eighth session, held in November 2017. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/KEN/CO/8) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 58 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Kenya to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 31 (a) and (d), 39 (e) and 51 (a) of the concluding observations, namely:

“31. In line with its general recommendation No. 23 (1997) on women in political and public life, the Committee recommends that the State party pursue sustained policies to promote the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at the national and local levels and:

(a) Immediately put in place the institutional and legal framework required to implement the presidential decree and the two-thirds gender rule;

(d) Ensure that political parties which are not compliant with the two-thirds gender rule are unable to gain access to funds, in line with the Political Parties Act of 2011, and provide incentives to parties that include an equal number of women and men on their electoral lists and at equal ranks.”

“39. Recalling its general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(e) Amend the Penal Code to decriminalize abortion and legalize it, at least, in cases of rape, incest, severe fetal impairment and risk to the health or life of the pregnant woman, ensure access to high-quality post-abortion care, especially where complications arise from unsafe abortions, and reinstate the Standards for Reducing Morbidity and Mortality from Unsafe Abortion in Kenya of 2012.”

His Excellency
Mr. Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Avenue de la Paix 1-3
1202 Geneva

Email: geneva@kenyamission.ch



“51. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Repeal section 7 of the Matrimonial Property Act and recognize the principle of equality in all areas of marriage, including property.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in November 2019, 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.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Kenya on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **3,500 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. 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.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Lia Nadaraia
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women