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REFERENCE: NP

26 April 2010

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the examination of the third periodic report of Zambia, at the Committee's 90th session, held in July 2007. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 28 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 10, 12, 13 and 23 of the concluding observations.

On 9 December 2009, the State party provided information on these paragraphs. At its 98th session, held in March 2010, the Committee noted that the information provided was incomplete. I therefore seize this opportunity to request additional information from the State party, in particular on:

- (a) the resources allocated to the Zambian Human Rights Commission (paragraph 10);
- (b) whether the Commission can seek and receive funds from international institutions or any other sources it deems appropriate (paragraph 10);
- (c) whether the powers and the status of the Commission have been enhanced since the adoption of the concluding observations (paragraph 10);
- (d) whether the rules governing the Commission are in full compliance with the Principles relating to the Status of National Institutions (Paris Principles, adopted by the General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993) (paragraph 10);
- (e) the current constitutional review, including whether it specifically relates to the concerns expressed by the Committee in paragraph 12;
- (f) the steps taken to ensure compliance of customary laws and practices with the rights enshrined in the Covenant, besides those relating to customary marriages, and the involvement of women in such processes (paragraph 13);
- (g) alternative measures to imprisonment (paragraph 23);
- (h) the measures adopted to ensure that the accused awaiting trial are not kept in custody for an unreasonable period of time (paragraph 23);
- (i) steps taken to guarantee the right of detainees to be treated with humanity and dignity (paragraph 23); and
- (j) the steps taken to reduce the prison population.

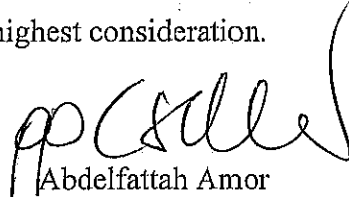
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His Excellency
Mr. Darlington MWAPE
Permanent Representative of Zambia
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Fax: 022-788 53 40

A Word electronic version of any additional information should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee (Ms Nathalie Prouvez, nprouvez@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the authorities of Zambia on the implementation of the Covenant.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abdelfattah Amor', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Abdelfattah Amor
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee