



Téléfax: (41-22)-917 9022
Télégrammes: UNATIONS, GENEVE
Téléx: 41 29 62
Téléphone: (41-22)-917 9309
Internet: www.ohchr.org
E-mail: nprouvez@ohchr.org

Address:
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 GENEVE 10

REFERENCE: NP/IF

9 March 2007

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination considered, at its 70th session held from the 19 February to the 9 March 2007, the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Georgia (CERD/C/GEO/CO/3/Add.1) pursuant to rule 65 (1) of its rules of procedure.

The Committee welcomed the submission of information as requested, on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10, 16 and 17 of the concluding observations (CERD/C/GEO/CO/3) adopted by the Committee following the consideration at its 67th session of the 2nd and 3rd periodic reports of Georgia, submitted in one document.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity thus provided to continue its dialogue with the State party. In this spirit, the Committee would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on action taken on these issues be included in the 4th and 5th periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by the State party on 2 July 2008:

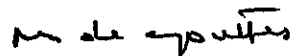
- **Paragraph 10 of the concluding observations:** The Committee welcomes the information provided on the legislative, regulatory and other steps that the State party has taken in line with its "plan of action to strengthen protection of the rights and freedoms of various population groups of Georgia for the period 2003-2005". The Committee, however, wishes to receive more detailed information on the results attained, in comparison with the initial goals set out in the Plan of action. Please also provide information on the goals and steps set out in the new Plan of action currently developed by the State party.

His Excellency Mr. Levan Mikeladze
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Georgia to the
United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva
Rue Richard Wagner, 1
CH 1202 Geneva
Fax: +41 22 733 90 33

- **Paragraph 16 of the concluding observations:** The Committee takes note of the information providing an overview of legislative provisions protecting the rights of citizens and non-citizens alike. It requests, however, further specific information on the legislative provisions protecting the rights set out in Article 5(b) (right to security, equal protection against violence), 5(e) (iii) (right to housing) and 5(f) of the Convention (equal access to public places). Furthermore, the Committee remains concerned about the situation of non-citizens in their effective enjoyment of the rights set out under Article 5 of the Convention, in particular their access to justice and their right to health. The Committee takes this opportunity to reiterate its request for detailed information on the specific and concrete steps taken by the State party to protect the enjoyment of these rights by non-citizens. Furthermore, please provide information on property confiscation and its impact on non-nationals, in line with Article 5(d) (v) of the Convention.
- **Paragraph 17 of the concluding observations:** The Committee takes note of the information provided by the State party, and wishes to receive more detailed information on the situation of refugees and asylum seekers and on the legal protection provided to them. Furthermore, the Committee welcomes the detailed information provided concerning the basis for deportation of refugees and asylum seekers. It remains concerned, however, that the criteria for deportation, as set out under the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners, do not mirror the criteria set out in the concluding observations of the Committee, and requests the State party's comments on this issue. Furthermore, please provide information on the interpretation by the State party of the concept of integration of non-citizens, in particular refugees and asylum-seekers.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to pursue its constructive dialogue with your Government, and to underline that the Committee's observations and request for further information are made with a view to assisting your Government in the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,



Régis de Gouttes
Chairman of the Committee for the
Elimination of Racial Discrimination