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REFERENCE: NP

23 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 fourth periodic report of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, at the Committee's 91st session, held in October 2007. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 31 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, 21, and 23 of the concluding observations.

On 16 December 2008 and on 9 June 2009, reminders were sent to your Permanent Mission, observing that the information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. On 24 July 2009, the State party provided information on these paragraphs. At its 97th session, held in October 2009 in Geneva, the Committee noted that the information provided was incomplete. I therefore seize this opportunity to request additional information from the State party on the above mentioned paragraphs, in particular:

(a) specific information on the concrete steps taken to combat violence against women, including the implementation of existing legislation in this regard, as well as disaggregated data on prosecutions (paragraph 10);

(b) information on the proposed amendments to the penal code and the timeframe envisaged for their adoption (paragraph 21); and

(c) concrete information on limitations on the right to freedom of opinion and expression in law, if any, and their compatibility with the Covenant, as well as information on amendments to such legislation that are currently considered (paragraph 23).

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

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His Excellency
M. Ibrahim A.E. ALDREDI
Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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I should also be grateful to meet with a representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya during the 99th session of the Committee, to be held from 12 to 30 July 2010 at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, to discuss the matters set out above. I look forward to the Permanent Mission's advice of a mutually convenient time for this meeting. In this regard, you are invited to contact Ms. Nathalie Prouvez, Secretary of the Human Rights Committee (NProuvez@ohchr.org, phone: +41 22 91 793 09).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the authorities of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on the implementation of the Covenant, and, in that context, to receiving your response without further delay.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abdelfattah Amor', written in a cursive style.

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