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COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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10 November 2021

Excellency,

In our capacity as Chair and Rapporteur for follow up to concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights respectively, we have the honour to refer to the examination of the fourth periodic report of Cameroon at the Committee's sixty-fifth session, held in 2019. In the concluding observations (E/C.12/CMR/CO/4), the Committee requested Cameroon to provide, within 24 months, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 26, 39 and 51 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report (E/C.12/CMR/FCO/4) received in April 2021 under its follow-up procedure. The Committee examined the report at its seventieth session, held from 27 September to 15 October 2021, and wishes to communicate the following assessment:

Paragraph 26: Discrimination against minorities – Assessment: Insufficient progress. The Committee notes with appreciation the legal and administrative measures taken by the State party to tackle discrimination and marginalization faced by ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities. However, the Committee notes that, according to information at its disposal, some minorities still face discrimination in the State party, including the English-speaking minority. The impact of these measures taken to implement this recommendation has been limited and remains of serious concern.

The Committee therefore assesses that the progress is insufficient in relation to the implementation of this recommendation. The Committee requests the State party to provide, in its next periodic report, detailed information on further measures taken to implement this recommendation.

Paragraph 39: Trade Union rights – Assessment: Insufficient progress. The State party's follow-up report, in respect of these recommendations, indicates that a Draft Bill relating to the Labour Code was examined by the National Consultative Committee on Employment in 2019.

His Excellency
Mr. Salomon EHETH
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The State party also informs that the Draft Bills relating to the Labour Code, the exercise of the right to strike and trade union activities provide for mechanisms aimed at protecting trade union rights more efficiently. There is no information on the investigation of complaints, nor on payment of compensation for the violations of workers' rights. The Committee also notes that the response does not provide information on the adoption of the Draft Bills.

Furthermore, regarding the amendment of section 2 of the law on suppression of acts of terrorism, the Committee notes that this is currently at planning stage.

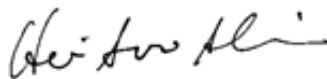
The Committee therefore assesses that the progress is insufficient in relation to the implementation of these recommendations. The Committee requests the State party to provide, in its next periodic report, detailed information on further measures taken to implement these recommendations.

Paragraph 51 (a-c): Right to food – Assessment: Insufficient progress. The State party's follow-up report indicates that a new document, the National Development Strategy 2020-2030 (NDS30) was drafted, with an ultimate goal of ensuring sufficient food for everyone. At the same time, information available to the Committee indicates that the number of people facing food insecurity increased in 2019, in spite of these measures. Information on efforts to boost the productivity of smallholder farmers is focusing on recommended policies and strategies. Moreover, the Committee notes the lack of concrete information on measures taken to mount campaigns to raise awareness about the prevention of the use of agricultural pesticides and chemicals that are hazardous to people's health and to disseminate agro-ecological practices.

The report does not indicate that significant action has been taken in response to the Committee's recommendations. The Committee thus considers that there was insufficient progress and requests the State party to provide additional information on progress made in implementing this recommendation in the context of its next periodic report.

The Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the State party, with a view to providing it with guidance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.



Heisoo Shin
Rapporteur for follow-up
Committee on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights



Mohamed Ezzeldin Abdel-Moneim
Chair
Committee on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights