

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/Turkmenistan/93

3 August 2026

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 sixth periodic report of Turkmenistan, at the Committee's eighty-seventh session, held in January and February 2024. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/TKM/CO/6](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 68 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Turkmenistan to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 (c), 20 (a), 36 (a) and 54 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#)) received under the CEDAW follow-up procedure on 2 April 2026, one month after the two-year reporting period. The Committee examined the follow-up report during the intersessional period and adopted the following assessment on 31 July 2026.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 14 (c)** of the concluding observations that the State party "**strengthen capacity-building for members of the judiciary and legal professionals regarding the direct application of the Convention in legal proceedings and the interpretation of national legislation in the light of the Convention, and apply a gender-sensitive, rather than gender-neutral, approach in the implementation of its legislation**":

The Committee welcomes that the State party undertakes regular capacity-building for judges and law enforcement officials that focuses on the application of the Convention in national court proceedings ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), para. 4). It equally notes that the framework for the development of the judicial system for the period 2022-2028 foresees efforts to strengthen the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan with regard to the application of international law, including international human rights law ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), para. 3). The Committee notes with regret, however, the lack of statistical data on the State party's capacity-building initiatives and the lack of information on the steps taken by the State party to ensure the application of a gender-sensitive approach in the implementation of its legislation.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps to implement the recommendation. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **been partially implemented**.

H.E. Mr. Vepa Hajjyew
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office and
other international organizations in Geneva
Email: office@turkmenistanmission.ch

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates to capacity-building for members of the judiciary and legal professionals and considers that the quality of this information is **satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 14 (c)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Continue to strengthen capacity-building for members of the judiciary and legal professionals regarding the direct application of the Convention in legal proceedings and the interpretation of national legislation in the light of the Convention, and take concrete steps to apply a gender-sensitive, rather than gender-neutral, approach in the implementation of its legislation.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 20 (a)** of the concluding observations that the State party “**establish, without further delay, a national machinery for the advancement of women, with a strong mandate and adequate human, technical and financial resources, to coordinate all public policies and strategies for gender equality and the advancement of women, including gender-responsive budgeting, and with gender units at the regional and local levels**”:

The Committee welcomes that the State party has established a number of institutions focused on human rights, with one working group “conducting the survey on the health and situation of women in the family” ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), paras. 5-8). It regrets, however, that the State party does not specify whether these institutions – except for the working group – have a dedicated and strong mandate to coordinate policies and programmes on the promotion and protection of women’s rights, and whether specific human, technical and financial resources are dedicated to this purpose. While the Committee takes note of the existence of “human rights resource centres” at provincial level, it lacks information on whether and to which degree these have a specific mandate to coordinate gender equality initiatives, and how such a function is carried out at the local level ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), para. 8). The Committee notes that “in conjunction with international financial institutions, aspects of gender-responsive budgeting [...] are being examined” ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), para. 11).

The Committee considers that the State party has not taken steps to implement the recommendation. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **not been implemented**.

The Committee considers that the follow-up report of the State party offers an overview of its human rights institutions. However, it regrets that the State party provides limited information on the mandate and on the human, technical and financial resources of these institutions specifically with regard to gender equality. Further, the Committee notes that the report does not describe in detail the structures in place at the regional and local levels. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 20 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Establish, without further delay, a national machinery for the advancement of women, with a strong mandate and adequate human, technical and financial resources, to coordinate all

public policies and strategies for gender equality and the advancement of women, including gender-responsive budgeting, and with gender units at the regional and local levels.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 36 (a)** of the concluding observations that the State party **"ensure the registration of women's human rights organizations, create an enabling environment for women human rights defenders to perform their legitimate work and provide a budget to support their activities"**:

The Committee notes that the State party has provided **no response** on its follow-up to this recommendation.

The Committee considers that there is a **lack of sufficient information to make an assessment**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 36 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, in its next periodic report, information on further actions taken to:

Ensure the registration of women's human rights organizations, create an enabling environment for women human rights defenders to perform their legitimate work and provide a budget to support their activities.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 54** of the concluding observations that the State party **"strengthen its measures to address barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities in accessing inclusive education, health care and social protection"**:

The Committee welcomes of the steps taken by the State party to provide women and girls with disabilities with access to inclusive education. These include the piloting of an inclusive education model in two preschools and two schools, the approval of a methodology for assessing and improving the accessibility of educational institutions for children with disabilities, the transfer of several hundred children from "special needs schools" to general education schools and regular preschools, and measures in the areas of educational materials, parental support, assistive devices and specialized equipment ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), paras. 18, 20 and 23-28). Further, the Committee takes note of the different programmes and frameworks in place to advance the State party's socioeconomic development and its efforts to collect statistical data, as described in its follow-up report ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), paras. 12-15 and 35-38). However, the Committee regrets the lack of information, on how concretely these programmes, frameworks and data collection initiatives help remove barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities. While noting the information provided on the State party's Social Protection Code, Employment Act and Tax Code ([CEDAW/C/TKM/FCO/6](#), paras. 32-34), the Committee is concerned about the limited information on how the State party ensures access of women and girls with disabilities to social protection and health care.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps related to removing barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities but has not specifically addressed their access to health care and social protection as recommended. It therefore considers that the recommendation has been **partially implemented**.



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES 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: ohchr-registry@un.org

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates partially to the recommendation but lacks specific focus on the access of women and girls with disabilities to health care and social protection. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 54** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Strengthen its measures to address barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities in accessing inclusive education, health care and social protection, in view of targets 5.1, 5.2 and 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jelena Pia-Comella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "P" and "C".

Jelena Pia-Comella

Rapporteur on follow-up

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women