



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/Ghana/66

26 April 2017

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 combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of the Republic of Ghana, at the Committee's fifty-ninth session, held in October 2014. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/GHA/CO/6-7) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 50 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Republic of Ghana to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 25 and 27 of the concluding observations, namely:

“25. The Committee calls upon the State party to ensure the swift closure of all remaining “witch camps” and that alleged witches are provided with adequate rehabilitation and safe reinsertion into their communities or with alternative housing and livelihood options. Specific steps should also be taken to protect the rights of all girls who have grown up in such camps, including by ensuring that they are provided with rehabilitation, safely reintegrated into their families and communities and given access to high-quality education and vocational training.”

“27. The Committee calls upon the State party:

(a) To ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act, 2007, including by expeditiously adopting enabling legislation, and to increase the human and financial resources for the implementation of the National Policy;

(b) To intensify efforts to prevent and systematically punish all forms of violence against women and girls by ensuring that complaints are fully and effectively investigated and that perpetrators are brought to justice;

(c) To provide systematic and mandatory capacity-building for judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers and health-care providers, to ensure that victims of violence are dealt with in a gender-sensitive manner. “

His Excellency
Mr. Sammie Eddico
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ghana
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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1209 Geneva

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Although the information sought by the Committee was due in October 2016, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Republic of Ghana on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4000 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a Word electronic version of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to cedaw@ohchr.org. For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Gbedemah
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women