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12 March 2010

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 76th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Republic of Moldova, pursuant to Rule 65(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12, 14, and 19 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/MDA/CO/7, March 2008), adopted following the consideration of the State party's 5th to 7th periodic reports. The Committee thus appreciates the opportunity provided to continue the dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee also takes this opportunity to acknowledge the 8th and 9th periodic reports of the Republic of Moldova received 2 March 2010 which will soon be translated into all working languages of the Committee and which will allow it to appreciate information contained therein on actions taken by the State party on the issues stated above.

Paragraph 12 of the Concluding Observations. The Committee thanks the State party for information provided noting that in spite of useful examples of implemented programmes, information on the annual plans for the implementation of the plan of action was lacking. The Committee expresses interest in obtaining more information from the 8th and 9th periodic reports on how on-going and future plans are built on lessons learnt from programmes implemented in the first two years since the plan's inception, as well as ways in which Roma representatives are able to effectively participate in the monitoring of the plan.

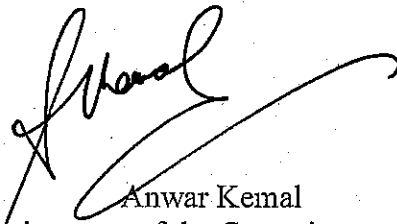
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Paragraph 14 of Concluding Observations. The Committee wishes to thank the State party for the information provided and takes note of the European Court of Human Rights verdict. The Committee would be interested on additional information on the Committee's recommendation that non-recognised religious communities be provided with opportunities to resubmit required documents in cases where applications are incomplete, reflected in the 8th and 9th periodic reports.

Paragraph 19 of Concluding Observations. The Committee commends the State party in its efforts to provide financial and material support to Roma school children and for the improvement in the general percentage of Roma children attending school. The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen awareness raising campaigns that advocate the importance of education and the value of regular school attendance. The Committee expresses interest in information that clarifies how much of the 15 percent of the preferential quota for certain categories of young people entering higher education are allotted students of Roma descent.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Moldova, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,



Anwar Kemal
Chairperson of the Committee on the
Elimination of Racial Discrimination