



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT 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: registry@ohchr.org

REFERENCE: jli/follow-up/CAT

29 August 2016

Excellency,

In our respective capacities as Chairperson of the Committee against Torture and Rapporteur of the Committee for Follow-up to Concluding Observations, we have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the initial report of Thailand, in accordance with the Guidelines for Follow-Up to Concluding Observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its 52<sup>nd</sup> session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/THA/CO/1, para. 31) requested the State Party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 12, 13, 15 and 18 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow us to express appreciation for your letter of 29 May 2015, providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/THA/CO/1/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Special laws (para. 12)

The Committee appreciates the extensive information provided by the State party on the legal safeguards under the "special laws" but remains concerned that the recommendations have not been implemented. In particular, the Committee regrets the absence of information about the outcome of the review of the special laws. The Committee has further requested information about the practical implementation of the laws in terms of safeguards and judicial review upon arrest, coerced confessions and immunity with regard to prosecutions (3/C).

Fundamental legal safeguards (para. 13)

While the Committee appreciates the extensive information provided by the State party, it considers that it does not fully address its recommendations, including those related to the right to inform relatives immediately upon arrest and the right to request a medical examination by an independent doctor. The Committee also requested information about the use and contents of detention registers. Regarding the right to legal aid, the Committee acknowledges that initial measures have been taken to implement the recommendation (2/B2).

.../...

H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Thailand  
to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
Email: [mission.thailand@ties.itu.int](mailto:mission.thailand@ties.itu.int)

Impunity (para. 15)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party, which only partially covers its recommendations in this regard. While it acknowledges that initial measures have been taken regarding the “draft act”, it regrets that no public condemnation of the practice of torture appears to have been made (2/B2).

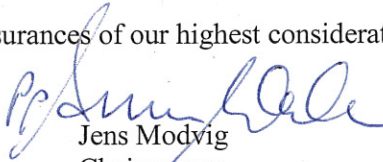
Human rights defenders (para. 18)

The Committee finds that the information provided by the State party shows an intention to address the problem but that no measures have been taken to implement the recommendation in practice. The Committee remains seriously concerned about the safety and security of human rights defenders documenting violations of the Convention in Thailand (3/C).

The Government of Thailand is encouraged to provide additional information, if any, which may further contribute to the Committee’s analysis of the progress made regarding the specific issues of concern. This additional information may be provided in any subsequent report by the State party pursuant to the Committee’s request in its concluding observations on the initial report of Thailand.

The Committee looks forward to a continued constructive dialogue with the authorities of Thailand on the implementation of the Convention.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Jens Modvig  
Chairperson  
Committee against Torture

Abdelwahab Hani  
Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations  
Committee against Torture

