



UNITED NATIONS
**HUMAN RIGHTS
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HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/Tunisia/92

25 February 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 seventh periodic report of Tunisia, at the Committee's eighty-fourth session, held in February 2023. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/TUN/CO/7](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 71 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Tunisia to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 20 (d), 28 (a), 30 (e) and 64 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report ([CEDAW/C/TUN/FCO/7](#)) received with on 20 May 2025, three months after the two-year reporting period. Due to the postponement of the Committee's 92nd session as a result of the liquidity crisis, the report was examined with some delay under the CEDAW follow-up procedure. At its ninety-second session, held in February 2026, the Committee examined this follow-up report and adopted the following assessment.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 20 (d)** of the concluding observations which urged the State party to **“establish the constitutional court without delay, allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for its effective functioning and ensure its independence, in line with the commitments made by the State party at the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review”**:

The Committee takes note that the establishment of the constitutional court is stipulated both in the Constitution of 25 July 2022 and in the road map of 25 July 2021, as indicated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the information by the State party on follow-up to the concluding observations on its seventh periodic report. The Committee regrets, however, that the constitutional court is not yet operational.

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

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates directly to the recommendation but demonstrates limited progress in establishing the constitutional court. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

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

Mr. Wadie Ben Cheikh
Minister Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations Office and
other international organizations in Geneva
Email: at.geneve@diplomatie.gov.tn



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Establish the constitutional court without delay, allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for its effective functioning and ensure its independence, in line with the commitments made by the State party at the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review.

In relation to the recommendation made in **paragraph 28 (a)** that the State party “**adopt temporary special measures and establish time-bound targets to accelerate the achievement of substantive equality of women and men in all areas covered by the Convention in which women are underrepresented or disadvantaged, especially at the decision-making level, paying particular attention to rural women, migrant women, women belonging to ethnic minorities, Amazigh women and women with disabilities**”:

The Committee takes note of the legislative and policy measures taken to accelerate substantive equality between women and men in many areas covered by the Convention, as described in paragraphs 4 to 61 in the information by the State party on follow-up to the concluding observations on its seventh periodic report. As examples, the Committee notes Act No. 30 (2020) on the social and solidarity economy, Act No. 37 (16 July 2021) on the regulation of domestic labour, Decree No. 33 (2020) on self-employment, Decree No. 4 (2024) on the social protection system for female agricultural workers and Decree No. 715 (2022) on the creation of an economic empowerment programme for poor and low-income persons on social security and persons with disabilities. It equally takes note of the distribution of loans to female founders of small and medium-sized enterprises, of the support provided to female agricultural workers, and of the programmes to facilitate women’s access to lease State agricultural plots and to loans.

The Committee would like to bring to your attention General Recommendation No. 40 on equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, which was adopted in October 2024, after the dialogue with the State party. The Committee would like to encourage the State party to take further steps to advance towards fifty-fifty parity between women and men in all spheres of decision-making, in line with its General Recommendation No. 40. For instance, women remain underrepresented in elected and appointed positions at the regional and national levels. The Committee also takes note of the lack of statistical data to assess the substantive equality of women facing intersectional forms of discrimination with men, such as women with disabilities, Amazigh women and refugee and migrant women. The Committee further regrets the lack of information on the progress made towards the substantive equality between women and men based on some of the legislative, policy and institutional measures taken by the State party; for instance, related to work in the informal sector, domestic labour, the social protection of female agricultural workers, access to loans and the rights of women with disabilities. It additionally regrets the absence of information on the establishment of time-bound targets and on any mechanisms in place to monitor the implementation of temporary special measures and to assess their impact on achieving gender equality, and to adopt adequate sanctions for non-compliance.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps to implement the recommendation, but that further action is required to work towards fifty-fifty parity between women and men in decision-making systems and substantive equality of women and men in all areas covered by the Convention. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **been partially implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates directly to the recommendation but is limited in scope regarding substantive equality of women and men in some areas covered by the Convention and does not provide a full assessment of the impact of some of the measures



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taken on gender equality. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 28 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Continue to adopt temporary special measures and establish time-bound targets to accelerate the achievement of substantive equality of women and men in all areas covered by the Convention in which women are underrepresented or disadvantaged, especially at the decision-making level, paying particular attention to rural women, migrant women, women belonging to ethnic minorities, Amazigh women and women with disabilities; and to establish mechanisms to monitor the impact of and compliance with temporary special measures.

In relation to the recommendation made in **paragraph 30 (e)** of the concluding observations that the State party “**ensure that women and girl victims of gender-based violence have access to adequate medical treatment, psychosocial counselling and economic support across the State party, including by providing sufficient funding to non-governmental organizations providing such support services**”:

The Committee takes note of the legislative, policy and institutional measures taken by the State party to provide services to women and girls victims of gender-based violence, as described in paragraphs 62 to 66 of its information on follow-up to the concluding observations on its seventh periodic report. The Committee particularly takes note of joint circular No. 5 (2022) on free initial medical certificates and facilitation of reimbursement for medical examinations and accommodation for women victims of violence, the network of regional coordinators under the National Observatory to Combat Violence against Women, the increase in the number of shelters and centres for women victims of violence and the provision of awareness-raising and training activities for school teachers and other beneficiaries.

While the Committee notes that several of these policy and institutional measures aim to reduce and address gender-based violence against women and girls, it regrets that no specific information was provided on the medical treatment, psychosocial counselling and economic support available across the State party, also the Committee would have appreciated receiving information on measures to prevent and address emerging forms of gender-based violence, including online or cyber violence against women and girls. The Committee further takes note that the shelters for women victims of gender-based violence in the 17 governorates operate under partnership agreements with relevant associations, but regrets the lack of information on funding provided to non-governmental organizations that support services to women and girls victims of violence.

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

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates to the recommendation but lacks statistical data on the availability of, and the number of women and girls victims of gender-based violence benefitting from, medical treatment, psychosocial counselling and economic support. It also regrets the absence of data on the funding provided to non-governmental



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organizations offering such services. The Committee thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 30 (e)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, in its next periodic report, information on further actions taken to:

Ensure that women and girl victims of gender-based violence, including women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, have access to adequate medical treatment, psychosocial counselling and economic support across the State party, including by providing sufficient funding to non-governmental organizations providing such support services.

In relation to the recommendation made in **paragraph 64** of the concluding observations that the State party “**repeal or amend all discriminatory provisions of the Personal Status Code to ensure equal rights for women and men, in particular regarding inheritance, marriage and family relations, and raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for women and men, without any exception, in line with article 16 of the Convention and joint general recommendation No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women/general comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2019)**”:

The Committee notes the information provided by the State party that it is currently undergoing a legislative review and reform process, with a view to strengthening human rights, as indicated in paragraph 67 of its information on follow-up to the concluding observations on its seventh periodic report. The Committee is concerned, however, about the absence of information on any progress in revising the Personal Status Code in line with the Convention, particularly in the area of inheritance, marriage, family matters and the minimum age of marriage.

While recognizing that legislative reform in these areas involves complex socio-legal sensitivities, the Committee emphasizes that article 16 (1) of the Convention obliges States parties to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations, on a basis of equality between women and men. The Committee considers that the State party has not taken concrete steps to implement the recommendation. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **not been implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party is insufficient and does not adequately address the core elements of the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **unsatisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 64** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Urgently repeal or amend all discriminatory provisions of the Personal Status Code to ensure equal rights for women and men, in particular regarding inheritance, marriage and family relations, and raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for women and men, without any exception, in line with article 16 of the Convention and joint general recommendation No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women/general comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2019).



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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jelena Pia-Comella', written over a horizontal line.

Jelena Pia-Comella
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women