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REFERENCE: Follow-up/CAT

3 March 2022

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 7 December 2020, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the initial report of Bangladesh (CAT/C/BGD/1), in accordance with the Guidelines for follow-up to concluding observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its sixty-seventh session, held from 22 July to 9 August 2019, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations (CAT/C/BGD/CO/1) to your Permanent Mission. In paragraph 52 of those concluding observations, the Committee requested, pursuant to its rules of procedure, that the State party provide within one year further information on follow-up to the recommendations on: monitoring all places of deprivation of liberty by an independent authority and representatives of non-governmental organizations (para. 16 (e)); ensuring the full implementation by law enforcement authorities and magistrates of the directives issued by the High Court (para. 22 (b)); ensuring that members of civil society organizations who have cooperated with the Committee in the context of the consideration of the State party's initial report are protected from any reprisals or harassment (para. 31 (d)); and, establishing a complaints mechanism for persons detained arbitrarily (para. 35 (a)). It also invited the State party to provide information about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations included in its concluding observations (see extracts annexed).

The State party has not provided the information sought by the Committee although more than two years have elapsed from the transmittal of the concluding observations. Therefore, I should urge you to provide, at your earliest convenience, a clarification as to the current status of your Government's responses to these matters, as well as an explicit indication of when the information requested will be forthcoming. An electronic version of the reply should be sent in Word format to the Secretariat of the Committee against Torture (ohchr-cat@un.org).

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H.E. Mr. Mustafizur Rahman Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office at Geneva Email: permanentmission.geneva@mofa.gov.bd I hereby request a meeting with you, Mr. Ambassador, or an official representative of Bangladesh you might wish to designate, to receive the above-referenced information. I look forward to the Permanent Mission's response concerning a mutually convenient time for the meeting. In regard to scheduling such a meeting, please contact the Secretariat of the Committee against Torture (ohchr-cat@un.org).

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

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations Committee against Torture