

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/81/Panama/88

28 June 2024

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on follow-up to concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the eighth periodic report of Panama, at the Committee's eighty-first session, held in February 2022. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/PAN/CO/8](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 55 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Panama to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 (c), 16 (a), 30 (a) and 44 (a) of the concluding observations, namely:

“14. The Committee, in line with its general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice, recommends that the State party:

(c) Remove plea agreements in cases of gender-based violence against women and ensure criminal prosecution under the accusatory criminal system;”

“16. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Build the capacity of judges, prosecutors, lawyers and police officers, including by making training on the Convention and the Committee's general recommendations a mandatory part of their professional training;”

“30. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Amend Law No. 56 of 2017 promoting gender parity in local and general elections, establishing sanctions for non-compliance with the obligation of parity; develop a strategy to promote the full, equal, free and democratic participation of women on an equal basis with men in political and public life; and support women's candidacies and political campaigns, including through capacity-building and campaign financing;”

“44. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Implement decisions in the national agreements between indigenous and Afrodescendant women's organizations and the State party signed by the President of the State party;”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in February 2024, 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 Panama 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 **3,500 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 ohchr-cedaw@un.org.

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

Yours sincerely,



Natasha Stott Despoja
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women