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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/62/Lebanon/69

13 April 2018

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 combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Lebanon, at the Committee's sixty-second session, held in November 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/LBN/CO/4-5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 53 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Lebanon to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 (f) and 22 (b) of the concluding observations, namely:

"12. The Committee recommends, in line with its general recommendation No. 32 (2014) on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women, that the State party:

(f) Adopt a national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, the participation of women at all stages of peace processes, in line with the Committee's general recommendation No. 30 (2013) on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations, and seek the support of the international community for the implementation of its obligations."

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

(b) Take immediate steps, including capacity-building and training programmes for justice system personnel on the Convention and women's rights, to ensure that religious courts harmonize their norms, procedures and practices with the human rights standards enshrined in the Convention and other international human rights instruments."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in November 2017, 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.

His Excellency Mr. Salim Baddoura Permanent Representative of the Lebanese Republic to the United Nations Office at Geneva Rue de Moillebeau 58 1209 Geneva

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The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Lebanon 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 **4,000 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 <u>cedaw@ohchr.org</u>. For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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Hilary Gbedemah Rapporteur on follow-up Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women