

## *Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*

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

25 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 combined eighth and ninth periodic reports of Uganda, at the Committee's eighty-first session, held in February 2022. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 55 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Uganda to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10 (a), 16 (b), 46 (b) and 50 (a) of the concluding observations, namely:

“10. In line with its guidance note on the obligations of States parties to the Convention in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Implement measures to redress long-standing inequalities between women and men by placing women at the centre of COVID-19 recovery strategies, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda, paying particular attention to unemployed women, women living in poverty, women belonging to ethnic and national minority groups, indigenous women, women in humanitarian settings, older women, women with disabilities, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and intersex persons;”

“16. With reference to its general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Accelerate the establishment of special divisions of the High Court to consider cases of gender-based violence against women and institutionalize the good practice of High Court special sessions;”

“46. With reference to its general recommendation No. 34 (2016) on the rights of rural women, and recalling its previous recommendation (CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/7, para. 42), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Ensure that evictions are court-ordered and subject to strict procedural safeguards, in line with international standards, and expedite court proceedings for prompt and adequate compensation and rehabilitation in the case concerning the land evictions in Mubende District, while observing the principle of separation of powers;”

“50. With reference to its general recommendation No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution and the joint general recommendation No. 31 of the Committee/general comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2019), and recalling its previous recommendation (CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/7, para. 48), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Harmonize its civil, religious and customary laws in the areas of marriage and family relations through the adoption of an inclusive and comprehensive family law, prohibit polygamy under all legal systems in the State party, rigorously enforce the prohibition

and ensure that children, including girls, born within polygamous unions have the same rights as children born within legally recognized unions;”

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 Uganda 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](mailto: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