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REFERENCE: YH/follow-up/Guyana/59

25 November 2014

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 seventh and eight periodic reports of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, at the Committee's fifty-second session, held in July 2012. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/GUY/CO/7-8) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 49 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11 and 17 of the concluding observations, namely:

"11. The Committee urges the State party to place high priority on the process of fully incorporating the Convention, without any limitations, into its national legal system in order to give central importance to the Convention as the basis for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women."

"17. The Committee encourages the State party:

(a) To clearly define the mandate and the responsibilities of the national machinery for the advancement of women and to expeditiously strengthen that machinery by providing it with adequate human, financial and technical resources for it to coordinate and work effectively for the promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming;

(b) To provide training in women's rights to women and men working in the national machinery for the advancement of women;

(c) To strengthen its impact assessment of measures taken so as to ensure that such measures achieve their goals and targets."

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Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2014, 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, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay. 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 reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of Follow-up reports by State parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely, Barbara Bail

Barbara Bailey Rapporteur on follow-up Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women