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REFERENCE: YH/follow-up/Mexico/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 eighth periodic reports of the United Mexican States, at the Committee's fifty second session, held in July 2012. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/MEX/CO/7-8) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 41 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the United Mexican States to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 19 (b) and 33 (a) and (b) of the concluding observations, namely:

"19. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Develop a consistent official registry of forced disappearances in order to be able to assess the magnitude of the phenomenon and adopt appropriate policies; review local penal codes in order to define forced disappearances as a crime; simplify the existing procedures to activate the Alba Protocol and the Amber Alert, with a view to launching the search of disappeared women and girls without delay; and standardize police protocols of search;

"33. The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To harmonize the federal and state legislations relating to abortion with a view to eliminating the obstacles faced by women seeking legal abortions and also to extend access to legal abortion in the light of the constitutional human rights reform and the Committee's general recommendation No. 24 (1999);

(b) To inform medical care providers and social workers that the local constitutional amendments have not repealed the grounds for legal abortion and also inform them of their responsibilities;

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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 United Mexican States 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