



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: AA/follow-up/Grenada/58

10 September 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 honour to refer to the examination of the combined initial to fifth periodic report of Grenada, at the Committee's fifty-first session, held in February- March 2012. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/GRD/CO/1-5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 45 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Grenada to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraph 18 and 24 (a), (c), (f), (h) and (i) of the concluding observations, namely:

"18. Recalling its general recommendation No. 6 (1988) on effective national machinery and publicity, and the guidance provided in the Beijing Platform for Action on the necessary conditions for the effective functioning of national mechanisms, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen the capacity of the Division of Gender and Family Affairs and the Domestic Violence Unit, including by providing adequate human, technical and financial resources, with clear and well-defined responsibilities, to formulate, implement, provide advice on, coordinate and oversee the preparation and implementation of legislation and policy measures in the field of gender equality;

(b) Urgently finalize and adopt a comprehensive, result-oriented national genderequality policy and a related plan of action with specific indicators and targets, which should include an effective strategy on gender equality based on the Convention, the Committee's general recommendations and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, with the involvement of all relevant bodies of the State apparatus and in consultation with relevant non-governmental organizations;

(c) Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles), a women's ombudsman or another specialized body with authority to consider as well as issue opinions and make recommendations on complaints submitted by women alleging violations of their human rights.

H. E. Mr. Georges CohenPermanent Representative of Grenada to the United NationsRoute de Vandoeuvres 561253 Vandoeuvres

E-mail: grenada.mission@gmail.com



"24. Recalling its general recommendation No. 19 (1992) on violence against women, the Committee urges the State party:

(a) To urgently finalize the development of the national strategic action plan for the prevention, protection and punishment of gender-based violence for its early adoption;

(c) To review and amend the Criminal Code's section on sexual offences and the procedures that accompany them to fully address all forms of violence against women, including by revising the provisions on sexual violence and criminalizing marital rape with no preconditions, within a clear time frame;

(f) To strengthen victim assistance and support programmes through measures to provide victims of violence against women with legal aid, medical support, including mental health services, and shelters as well as rehabilitation services, as appropriate;

(h) To operationalize the domestic violence hotline;

(i) To urgently adopt comprehensive legislation to combat sexual harassment."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in March 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 Grenada 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 Bai

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