



REFERENCE: 2021-21/CESCR/FU

18 May 2021

Excellency,

In our capacity as Chair and Rapporteur for follow up to concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights respectively, we have the honour to refer to the examination of the second periodic report of Turkmenistan at the Committee's sixty-fourth session, held in September 2018. In the concluding observations (E/C.12/TKM/CO/2), the Committee requested the State party to provide, within 24 months, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs in paragraphs 21 (d)-(f), 24 and 36 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report (E/C.12/TKM/FCO/2) received in September 2020 under its follow-up procedure. The Committee examined the report at its sixty-ninth session, held in March 2021, and wishes to communicate the following assessment:

Paragraph 21 (d)-(f): Gender equality – Lack of information to make assessment for (d), and no response for (e) and (f). The Committee notes that the State party did not report on any changes to the penal and labour legislations as regards virginity tests and restrictions on women's employment and sexual harassment at the workplace. It also notes that a bill revising the Criminal Code is being considered by the Parliament. Moreover, the Committee regrets that the follow-up report does not include information in relation to the implementation of recommendations contained in paragraphs 21 (e) and (f).

Paragraph 24: Forced labour – Insufficient progress. The Committee notes the measures taken by the State party to eliminate forced labour, such as adoption of the Act on the Tripartite Commission for the Regulation of Social and Labour Relations and ratification of ILO C. 144 (Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976. The Committee notes that the impact of these measures has been limited as, according to information available to it, forced labour, in particular for cotton harvesting, remains of serious concern. The Committee thus concludes that there has been insufficient progress in relation to the implementation of this recommendation and requests the State party to provide further information on steps taken and the impact thereof in the next report.

His Excellency

Mr. Atageldi HALJANOV

Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan

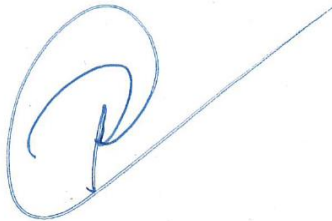
to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

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Paragraph 36: Housing and forced evictions – Lack of sufficient information to make an assessment. The Committee notes the information in the follow-up report on the legal provisions under which demolition of personal property and eviction can be justified as well as on the judicial settlement of housing-related disputes. However, the Committee regrets the lack of specific information on the implementation of recommendations contained in paragraph 36. The Committee thus concludes that there is lack of sufficient information to make assessment and requests the State party to include information on the measures taken in the next periodic report.

The Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the State party, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.



Renato Zerbini Ribeiro Leão
Chair
Committee on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights



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