



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE:KF/fup-110

28 April 2014

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the sixth periodic report of Norway.

At the end of its 103rd session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 17 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 5, 10 and 12 of the concluding observations.

On 19 November 2012, follow-up information on the referred paragraphs was received. At its 107th session, held in March 2013, the Committee analysed the follow-up reply provided by the State party and decided that additional information was necessary.

On 27 June 2013, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 110th session held in March 2014, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 5: [B2] The Committee welcomed the consultation process with organisations and NGOs for the establishment of the new national human rights institution, but required additional information on:
 - (a) the results of the consultation process carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with organizations and NGOs;
 - (b) the decision made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on what shape the new national human rights institution will take; and
 - (c) the precise mandate, objectives, activities, and monitoring mechanisms of the new institution.

His Excellency
Mr. Steffen Kongstad
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- Paragraph 10: [B1] While the Committee welcomed the measures taken in the framework of the national strategy for increased voluntariness in the mental health services (2012-2015), it required additional information on:
 - (a) the impact of the national strategy to end the unjustified use of coercive force and restraint of psychiatric patients;
 - (b) the measures foreseen in the national strategy to strengthen the monitoring and reporting system in mental health care institutions and its impact;
 - (c) the procedure preceding the use of coercive force and restraint and on steps taken to ensure that such decisions are based on a thorough and professional medical assessment; and
 - (d) the progress on the implementation of the national professional guidelines for the use of the electroconvulsive treatment and the establishment of a register for such use.

- Paragraph 12: [A] The Committee considered the State party's response largely satisfactory.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in October 2014. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in a Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **5 August 2014** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Norwegian authorities on the implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Fabián Omar Salvioli
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee