

*Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/82/Namibia/89

22 November 2024

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on follow-up to concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the sixth periodic reports of Namibia, at the Committee's eighty-second session, held in June 2022. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/NAM/CO/6](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 55 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Namibia to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 (b), 16 (a), 28 (d) and 54 (b) of the concluding observations, namely:

“12. Recalling its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/NAM/CO/4-5, para. 9), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Strengthen efforts to establish a national database, containing gender-disaggregated data, to track the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee.”

“16. Recalling its general recommendation No. 28 (2010) on the core obligations of States parties under article 2 of the Convention and the Committee's previous concluding observations (CEDAW/C/NAM/CO/4-5, para. 11), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Accelerate the adoption of all bills aimed at ensuring formal and substantive equality of women and men, and incorporate a gender-sensitive approach in all relevant legislation;”

“28. Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(d) Ensure that police officers trained in responding to gender-based violence are based at each police station, and ensure effective access to protection orders, reparations, shelters and psychosocial treatment and counselling for women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence in all parts of the State party.”

H.E Ms. Julia Imene-Chanduru  
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“54. Recalling its general recommendation No. 21 (1994) on equality in marriage and family relations and its general recommendation No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Amend the Child Care and Protection Act (No. 3 of 2015) and the Marriage Act (No. 25 of 1961) to remove all exceptions to the minimum age of marriage of 18 years for women and men, clarify the meaning of “full age” in article 14 (1) of the Constitution, ensure that the minimum age of marriage of 18 years is applied to all marriages and unions in the State party, and support girls who are married by providing mechanisms to increase their access to education and vocational training and by providing information on sexual and reproductive health and rights.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2024, 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.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Namibia on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **3,500 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. 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 [ohchr-cesdaw@un.org](mailto:ohchr-cesdaw@un.org).

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

Yours sincerely,



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