



REFERENCE: 2021-20/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 initial report of Niger at the Committee's sixty-third session, held in March 2018. In the concluding observations (E/C.12/NER/CO/1), the Committee requested the State party to provide, within 18 months, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs in paragraphs 41, 45 and 52(c) of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report (E/C.12/NER/FCO/1) received in October 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 41: Labour inspection – Lack of sufficient information to make an assessment. The Committee regrets that the follow-up report does not provide concrete information as to the extent to which labour legislation is enforced in the informal sector nor on the extent to which the 70 labour inspectors are sufficient or adequately trained. Therefore, the Committee is unable to assess properly whether there was any progress achieved and requests the State party to include information on the measures taken in the next report.

Paragraph 45: Early marriage – Insufficient progress. The Committee notes that the current Civil Code remains in force while a bill to raise the age of marriage to 18 years for both sexes is being drafted. The Committee also notes that awareness-raising efforts aimed to counter early marriages during the 2013-2018 period had taken place before the review by the Committee and thus cannot be considered as follow-up implementation. Therefore the Committee assesses that the progress is insufficient and requests the State party to provide more information in the next report.

His Excellency

Mr. Laouali LABO

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Niger

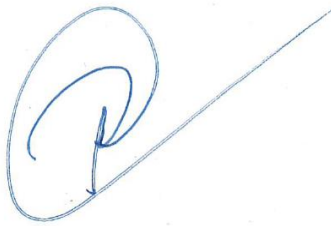
to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Email: missionduniger1@gmail.com

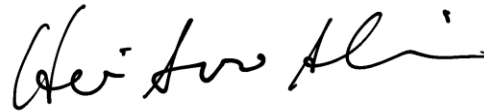
Paragraph 52: Right to health – Insufficient progress. The Committee notes that the State party continues its policy of providing free health care to vulnerable groups, in particular pregnant women and children under the age of 5 as well as free access to antiretroviral drugs. The Committee also notes that the State party has drawn up a road map to deliver universal health coverage within the framework of the social protection policy adopted in 2011 and that, at the time of the submission of the report, the draft laws to support the implementation of universal health coverage were yet to be adopted. The Committee concludes that there is “insufficient progress” in relation to the implementation of this recommendation and requests the State party to include more information thereon in the next 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



Heisoo Shin
Rapporteur *a.i.* for follow-up
Committee on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights