



Téléfax: (41-22)-917 9029
Télégrammes: UNATIONS, GENEVE
Téléx: 41 29 62
Téléphone: (41-22)-917 9614
Internet: www.ohchr.org
E-mail: tschackel@ohchr.org



Address:
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 GENEVE 10

REFERENCE: TS/ADV/JF

15 August 2008

Excellency,

You will recall that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, at its 70th session held from 19 February to 9 March 2007, considered the sixth and seventh periodic reports of the Czech Republic and adopted concluding observations in relation thereto (CERD/C/CZE/CO/7).

Pursuant to Article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and Article 65 of the Committee's rules of procedure, as amended, the Committee requested in paragraph 27 of its concluding observations that your Government provide information on the way it has followed up on the recommendations contained in paragraphs 8, 14, 17 and 19 within one year.

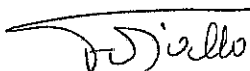
To date, the Committee has not received any information from the State party in this respect. On the other hand, the Committee has received information from other sources according to which members of the Roma community, in particular in the town of Novy Jicin, currently face forced eviction and homelessness. In light of this information, the Committee would like to refer to paragraph 16 of its concluding observations, in which it reiterated "its concern about information according to which Roma people are vulnerable to evictions and segregation in housing" and regretted "that the State party has not taken sufficient action to tackle this issue". The Committee was also concerned that "the autonomy of municipalities under domestic law is described by the State party as an obstacle to the fulfilment of its obligations to ensure the enjoyment of the right to housing by all without discrimination, in particular at the local level" and stated that "legislation should include measures providing the greatest possible security for tenants and strictly enumerate the circumstances under which evictions may be carried out".

H.E. Mr. Tomas Husak
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations at Geneva
Chemin Louis Dunant 17
Case postale 109
1211 Geneva 20
Fax: 0041 22 740 36 62

In light of the above, and with a view to continuing a constructive dialogue with your Government, the Committee requests the State party to submit comments with respect to the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraph 16 of its concluding observations, in particular with respect to the situation of the Roma community in the town of Novy Jicin. The Committee also reiterates its request for the State party to provide comments with respect to the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 8, 14, 17 and 19 of its concluding observations. The Committee wishes to receive such comments not later than 31 December 2008.

Allow me, Excellency, to underline that the Committee's requests for information are made with a view to assisting your Government in the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,



Fatimata-Binta Victoire Dah
Chairperson of the Committee for the
Elimination of Racial Discrimination