



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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10 May 2019

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 98<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the State of Kuwait, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of the Convention, and Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year of the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 (b) and 28 (b) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/KWT/CO/21-24), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, at its 93<sup>rd</sup> session held in August 2017.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its combined 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 4 January 2020.

### **Paragraph 12 (b) of the Concluding Observations**

The Committee welcomes information on the operationalization of the National Human Rights Institution, and appointment of its Board of Directors. The Committee requests further information in the next periodic report on the work undertaken by the NHRI to promote and protect human rights, including under this Convention, and measures taken to ensure the NHRI is able to fulfil its mandate in an effective and impartial manner, in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

His Excellency Mr. Jamal M.I. Alghunaim  
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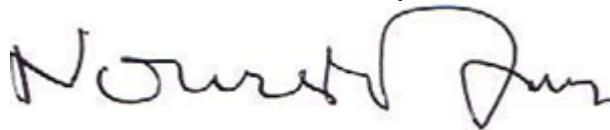
## Paragraph 28 (b) of the Concluding Observations

While welcoming information on some measures taken to allow civil registration and issuance of official documents, including birth and death certificates to “illegal residents”, the Committee remains concerned that the Bidoon are referred to as “illegal residents” or “non-Kuwaiti” in the statement of nationality and may still face barriers in obtaining official documents and in equal access to social services and due process. The Committee reiterates its recommendation that the State party find a durable solution to the problems faced by Bidoon, including by considering naturalizing those who have lived in Kuwait for long periods and have a genuine and effective link to the State. It also recommends that the State party ensure effective administrative procedures for the provision of official documents to the Bidoon, and ensure equal access by the Bidoon to social services and due process. The Committee requests that the State party provide updated information on the implementation and impact of this recommendation in its next periodic report.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the State of Kuwait, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

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

Yours sincerely,



Nouredine Amir  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination