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REFERENCE: MK/follow-up/68/Oman/75

11 March 2020

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the combined second and third periodic reports of Oman, at the Committee's sixty-eighth session, held in November 2017. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/OMN/CO/2-3) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 62 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Oman to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10 (a), 16 (a), 24 (a) and 40 (b) of the concluding observations, namely:

"10. The Committee reminds the State party that its general reservation and reservation to article 16 are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and are thus impermissible under article 28 of the Convention (see the statement by the Committee on reservations, adopted at its nineteenth session, in 1998). The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Complete the steps for the withdrawal of its reservation to article 15 (4) of the Convention."

"16. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Provide detailed information on the mandate, status and authority of the National Commission for Family Affairs and its relationship with relevant ministries and women's non-governmental organizations to promote gender mainstreaming throughout all government bodies and participatory planning for the advancement of women; on the human, technical and financial resources allocated from the national budget to the Commission; and on the presence of the Commission at the governorate and local levels in order to enable the Committee to assess the effectiveness of the Commission as the national machinery for the advancement of women."

His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Al Riyami Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations Office at Geneva Chemin de Roilbot 3A 1292 Chambésy

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"24. In the light of joint general recommendation No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women/general comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2014) on harmful practices, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Undertake a national study on the prevalence of harmful practices and continue to take measures to eliminate all harmful practices in the State party, including female genital mutilation and child and/or forced marriage, especially in rural areas."

"40. The Committee, in line with its general recommendation No. 26 (2008) on women migrant workers, recommends that the State party:

(b) Extend the application of the Labour Law to domestic workers and adopt a specific law regulating domestic employment, with adequate sanctions for employers engaging in abusive practices."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in November 2019, 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 Oman 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 <u>cedaw@ohchr.org</u>.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

2. Nadarain

Lia Nadaraia Rapporteur on follow-up Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women