



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

PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

REFERENCE: CAT/Follow-up

23 October 2018

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Committee against Torture, I have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the combined second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, in accordance with the Guidelines for follow-up to concluding observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of the 60th session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, para. 42) requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 13 (a), 23 (d) and 41 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow me to express appreciation for your letter of 11 May 2018 providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3/Add.1) and to make the following comments:

Resumption of the application of the death penalty (para. 13 (a))

While taking note of the information provided by the State party on the legal framework governing the imposition of capital punishment and the statistical information on death sentences and executions during the period January 2016 – April 2018, the Committee observes with concern that the State party has not yet taken any concrete measures to re-establish a moratorium on executions and continues to sentence individuals to death (2/C).

.../...

H. E. Mr. Yusuf Abdulkarim Bucheeri
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Email: info@bahrain-mission.ch

Conditions of detention (para. 23 (d))

The Committee takes note of the information provided by the State party that a number of national and international monitoring bodies and organizations, including the National Institution for Human Rights and the International Committee of the Red Cross, carry out visits to places of detention and meet in private with detained persons. However, it remains concerned at the reported reluctance of inmates to denounce abuses for fear of reprisals. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned at the lack of information in the State party's follow-up report about the visits carried out by the governmental Prisoners and Detainees Rights Commission (2/B2).

Visits by United Nations human rights mechanisms (para. 41)

The Committee notes that the State party is considering the possibility of arranging a visit to the country, including to the Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility, by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the context of a technical cooperation and capacity-building agreement. However, and notwithstanding the explanations provided by the State party in its follow-up replies, the Committee expresses regret at the still outstanding request for a country visit by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit the country. The request, which has been pending since 2011, was renewed in July 2017 (1/C).

Implementation plans (para. 42)

According to the information provided by the State party, a plan of action for implementing the recommendations of the Committee had been drawn up and circulated among governmental authorities in Bahrain. The Committee would be most grateful to receive a copy of the cited action plan. In this regard, the Committee appreciates the additional information provided by the State party on the use of non-custodial measures, as recommended by the Committee in paragraph 19 (d) of its concluding observations (B).

The Government of Bahrain is encouraged to provide additional information, if any, which may further contribute to the Committee's analysis of the progress made regarding the specific issues of concern. This additional information may be provided in any subsequent report by the State party pursuant to the Committee's request in its concluding observations on the combined second and third periodic reports of Bahrain.



The Committee looks forward to a continued constructive dialogue with the authorities of Bahrain on the implementation of the Convention.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Abdelwahab Hani', written in a cursive style.

Abdelwahab Hani
Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Committee against Torture