



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

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29 August 2016

Excellency,

In our respective capacities as Chairperson of the Committee against Torture and Rapporteur of the Committee for Follow-up to Concluding Observations, we have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the fifth periodic report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in accordance with the Guidelines for Follow-Up to Concluding Observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its 50<sup>th</sup> session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 38) requested the State Party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 15, 19, 20, 21 and 23 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow us to express appreciation for your letter of 30 May 2014, providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/GBR/CO/5/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Inquiries into allegations of torture overseas (para. 15)

The Committee considers that the information provided does not respond fully to its recommendation and this issue is therefore considered as not being implemented. The State party's follow-up report does not provide information about any new inquiry on the alleged acts of torture and ill-treatment of detainees held overseas, that would address the shortcomings of the Detainee Inquiry. The Committee reiterates its concern and invites the State party to provide the Committee with updated information on any new developments in this regard (2/C).

Transfer of detainees to Afghanistan (para. 19)

The State party informs in its follow-up submission that the transfer of detainees to Afghanistan does not constitute a breach of the principle of non-refoulement. However, the information which constitutes the basis for this assessment has not been provided. The State party is invited to submit additional information about the grounds on which such an assessment has been made (2/D).

.../...

H.E. Mr. Julian Braithwaite  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
Email: geneva\_un@fco.gov.uk

Deportations to Sri Lanka (para.20)

The Committee finds that the information provided is incomplete and that it is therefore unable to assess its implementation. The State party is invited to submit its revised Country Guidance to the Committee (1/D).

Shaker Aamer (para. 21)

This recommendation is considered to be fully implemented. The Committee commends the State party for its efforts as well as for their results, which have been achieved through the recent release of Mr. Aamer (3/A).

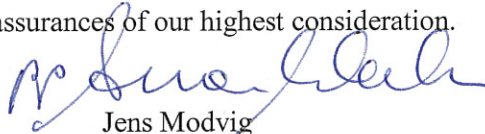
Transitional justice in Northern Ireland (para. 23)

The information provided is extensive and responds directly to the recommendation made by the Committee. However, the Committee considers the recommendation to be only partially implemented by the initial steps. The State party' follow-up report does not provide information about a comprehensive framework for transitional justice in Northern Ireland, with a view to ensuring a prompt, thorough and independent investigation of all cases of torture and ill-treatment. The Committee invites the State party to take steps to fully implement the recommendation and to keep it informed about any progress in this regard (3/B2).

The Government of the United Kingdom 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 fifth periodic report of the United Kingdom.

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

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Jens Modvig  
Chairperson

Committee against Torture

Abdelwahab Hani

Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations  
Committee against Torture

