



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: CERD/83rd/FU/GH/MN/vc

30 August 2013

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 83rd session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, pursuant to 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 on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 9, 18, 21 and 28 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/GBR/CO/18-20), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 18th to 20th periodic report during its 79th session in August 2011.

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 to be included in its 21st to 23rd periodic reports to be submitted in a single document, which is due on 6 April 2014.

Paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee takes note of the findings of the Independent Riots, Communities and Victims Panel published in March 2012, and the reiteration by the State party that the riots were not about race. The Committee nevertheless remains concerned that communities from poor and minority ethnic backgrounds were disproportionately involved in or affected by the State party's policy responses to the riots, and wishes to receive updated information on concrete measures taken to implement the 63 recommendations outlined in the Panel's report.

Her Excellency
Ambassador Karen Pierce
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and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office
and other International organizations at Geneva
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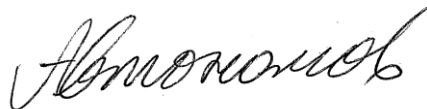
Paragraph 18 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee notes the position of the State party that it does not accept the Committee's recommendation that all police "stops" should be recorded, and that London's Metropolitan Police Service has adopted a new approach called "STOP IT", which is reportedly more intelligence-based led and targeted and aims to reduce violence. The Committee wishes to receive further information on the effectiveness of the "STOP IT" in reducing undue and disproportionate targeting of member of minority ethnic groups, and whether the State party intends to implement this new approach across the State party. Additionally, the Committee requests further clarification to be provided on the adoption of effective safeguards against the abuse of stop and search powers.

Paragraph 21 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided on the new Terrorism Prevention and Investigations Measures (TPIM) system, although it regrets that all individuals subject to a TPIM notice are subject to an anonymity order and that data on their ethnic origin and religious belief is categorized as sensitive personal information under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Committee requests further information to be provided in the State party's next periodic report concerning the number of individuals who have been subject to a TPIM notice, clarification of the "limitations on the measures that can be imposed on an individual" under the new TPIM system, and on any cases where TPIM notices have been challenged in courts.

Paragraph 28 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided, and requests further information in its next periodic report on the implementation of the 28 commitments outlined in the April 2012 progress report of the Ministerial Working Group, as well as on concrete results achieved in improving the Gypsy and Traveller communities' access to education, healthcare and appropriate housing.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 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.



Alexei Avtonomov
Chair
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination