



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

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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 fourth periodic report of Uzbekistan, in accordance with the Guidelines for Follow-Up to Concluding Observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its 51st session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/UZB/CO/4, para. 31) requested the State Party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 13 and 16(b) of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow us to express appreciation for your letter of 17 April 2014, providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/UZB/CO/4/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Widespread torture and ill-treatment (para. 7)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party but considers that this information does not address the recommendations included in the concluding observations, in particular concerning investigations undertaken and a public condemnation of torture (1/C).

Harassment, arbitrary imprisonment and alleged torture of human rights defenders (para. 8)

The Committee finds that the information provided does not address the recommendations and therefore considers that it has not been implemented (1/C)

Investigation and prosecution of acts of torture and ill-treatment (para. 9)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party and considers that it is thorough but does not directly relate to the recommendation. However, the Committee finds that initial steps have been taken towards the implementation of its recommendations in this regard (2/B2).

.../...

Mr. Ulugbek Lapasov
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Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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Fundamental legal safeguards (para. 13)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party, which relates to some of the recommendations included in the concluding observations. It notes, nevertheless, that their implementation is being considered by the Government but that it has not yet taken place. Please provide updated information to the Committee on any further steps taken by the State party to implement this recommendation (2/C).

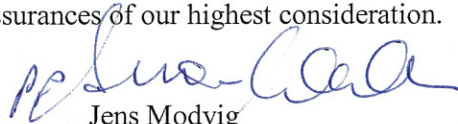
Evidence obtained through torture (para. 16)

The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party about the legal measures put in place to ensure the inadmissibility of confessions extracted under torture. However, it notes that this information does not relate directly to its recommendation that judges in charge of criminal cases ensure that all defendants are asked whether they were tortured or ill-treated, and request an independent medical examination of the defendants if required (1/C).

The Government of Uzbekistan 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 fourth periodic report of Uzbekistan.

The Committee looks forward to a continued constructive dialogue with the authorities of Uzbekistan 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

