



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/Gambia/68

28 November 2017

Dear Ms. Sock,

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 fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Gambia, at the Committee's sixty-first session, held in July 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/GMB/CO/4-5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 56 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Gambia to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11 (b), 21 (a)-(c) and 27 (b) of the concluding observations, namely:

“11. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Promote the appointment of women judges at all levels of the judiciary, including in *cadi* courts and district tribunals, and adopt temporary special measures in line with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 on the subject”

“21. The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To expedite the adoption of legislation criminalizing female genital mutilation, prosecute and adequately punish those responsible, and compensate victims;

(c) To provide alternative means of livelihood for practitioners of female genital mutilation”

“27. In line with its general recommendation No. 23 on women in political and public life, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Expeditiously implement section 15 (1) of the Women's Act by adopting temporary special measures for women's equal representation in political and public life, including statutory quotas, with sanctions for non-compliance, in accordance with article 4 (1) of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 on the subject”

Ms. Adelle Marie Sock  
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Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2017, 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 Croatia 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 **4000 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 [cedaw@ohchr.org](mailto:cedaw@ohchr.org). For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Gbedemah  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women