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19 September 2012

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honour to refer to the examination of the combined fourth to seventh periodic report of Uruguay at the Committee's forty-second session, held in October - November 2008. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission (CEDAW/C/URY/CO/7). You may recall that in the concluding observations, the Committee requested Uruguay to provide, within two years, further information regarding the specific areas of concern identified by the Committee in paragraphs 15 and 29 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report received on 10 January 2012 under the CEDAW follow-up procedure (CEDAW/C/URY/CO/7/Add.1). At its fifty-second session, held in July 2012 in Geneva, the Committee examined this follow-up report and adopted the following assessment.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 15** of the concluding observations “to adopt and implement, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation 25, temporary special measures, with an emphasis on the areas of employment of women and participation of women in public life”: The State party indicated that Act No. 18476 of 3 April 2009 provides for “the equitable participation of persons of both sexes in the legislative branch, municipal government, departmental councils, autonomous local electoral boards and governing bodies of political parties” and renders obligatory to include at least one woman candidate in each group of three candidates on political parties' electoral lists. This law applies to the next 2014 elections (paras 1 and 3 of follow-up report). The Committee considered that the recommendation had **been implemented**.

Also, the State party mentioned that, in the framework of the programme called “Objetivo Empleo”, subsidies are higher for employers who hire women (60 per cent of labour costs are subsidized for men and 80 percent for women). While the State party took some steps to implement temporary special measures in the area of employment, these measures are not sufficient. The Committee considered that the recommendation had **been partially implemented**.

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The Committee recommends that the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, additional information on steps taken by the Government to adopt additional temporary special measures in the areas of participation of women in public life and employment. The Committee also recommends that the State party implements additional temporary special measures aimed at reaching de facto equality of women, in particular for women of African descent.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 29** of the concluding observations “to intensify its efforts to combat trafficking in women and girls, study its scope, causes, consequences and purposes, and systematically compile information with a view to formulating a comprehensive strategy that includes measures of prevention, prosecution and punishment of offenders, as well as measures to protect and rehabilitate victims and reintegrate them into society.” While noting the important steps taken by the State party, there is a need for additional efforts. The Committee considered that the recommendation had **been partially implemented**.

Concerning the recommendation “to conduct nationwide awareness-raising campaigns on the risks and consequences of trafficking targeted at women and girls and train law enforcement, migration and border police officials on the causes, consequences and incidence of trafficking in women and girls.” The State party provided many details on the activities carried out since 2009 to raise public awareness. While the State party failed to mention whether it has started implementing the training for law enforcement, migration and border police officials, the project entitled “measures for developing public policy on the smuggling and trafficking of women, children and adolescents for commercial sexual exploitation” provides for the holding of training courses for those involved in cases (judges, prosecutors, experts in organized crimes, public defenders, police offenders and other officials). The Committee considered that the recommendation had **been implemented**.

Concerning the recommendation to “carefully monitor the impact of measures taken and provide information on the results achieved.” No information has been provided by the State party in this regard. The Committee considered that the recommendation had **not been implemented**.

The Committee recommends that the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on steps taken by the Government to conduct trainings for law enforcement, migration and border police officials on trafficking, its causes, consequences and incidence; and steps taken to monitor the impact of measures taken.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the authorities of Uruguay on the implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Bailey  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women