



REFERENCE: CERD/110th session/2023/FU/MJA/AKB/ks

12 September 2023

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 110th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Luxembourg, pursuant to article 9 (1) of the Convention and 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 8 and 18 (b) and (c) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/LUX/CO/18-20), adopted following the consideration of the State party's 18th and 20th reports, at its 106th session, held in April 2022.

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 be included in its combined 21st to 24th periodic reports, which is due for submission, in a single document, by 31 May 2025.

Paragraph 8 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party that financial resources available to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner that have increased year by year and the staff has since expanded to include an additional employee. However, the Committee takes note of the Commissioner's Office's concern that the technical and financial resources allocated to it remain insufficient for it to fulfil its mandate and recommends the State party to effectively address this issue. The Committee invites the State party to provide further information in its next periodic report on the increased base funding to improve the financial and human resources capacity of the Office of the Commissioner to enable it to implement its mandate fully. The Committee considers the response to this recommendation partially satisfactory.

H.E. Mr. Marc Bichler
Permanent Representative of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
to the United Nations Office
Geneva
geneve.rp@mae.etat.lu

Paragraph 18 (b) and (c) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information on the adoption in 2021 of a law on electronic media, explicitly forbidding the incitement of violence or hatred in audiovisual media and requiring video-sharing platform providers to respond appropriately.

The Committee welcomes the information provided on the launch of the “No hate online” campaign, “Netiquette” initiative, and “Dialogue instead of hate” initiative. The Committee invites the State party to provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of these measures on combatting the spread of online racial hate speech towards migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and people of African descent in its next periodic report.

Additionally, the Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the various public awareness campaigns conducted. The Committee invites the State party to provide further information in its next periodic report on evaluations of the effectiveness of the campaigns in tackling prejudice and misinformation concerning migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and people of African descent, in particular those on “Luxembourg’s colonial past”, “A fleur de peau: being Afro-descendant in Luxembourg”, “Cliché – Society in migration”, and “Generate essential changes in the issue of racism in Luxembourg and improve the conditions for the integration of third-country nationals”.

The Committee invites the State party to provide information on the availability of funding for civil society organisations implementing initiatives to combat racial hate speech and tackle prejudice and misinformation concerning migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and people of African descent and promoting respect for diversity and the elimination of racial discrimination.

The Committee considers the response to this recommendation as satisfactory.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Estonia, 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.

Yours sincerely,



Verene Shepherd
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination