

REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/62/Timor-Leste/69

13 April 2018

Excellency,

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 second and third periodic report of Timor-Leste, at the Committee's sixty-second session, held in November 2015. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/TLS/CO/2-3) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 46 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Timor-Leste to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 13 (a) and (b) and 35 (a), (b) and (c) of the concluding observations, namely:

“13. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Strengthen the human, technical and financial resources and the decision-making power of the national machinery for the advancement of women and the gender working groups, throughout all governmental bodies;
- (b) Put in place monitoring mechanisms under the auspices of the Ministry of Finance to regularly assess progress in the implementation of the State party's strategic plans on women's rights and gender equality.”

“35. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Adopt, without further delay, the three land laws and ensure that rural women have equal access to land with men, including by raising awareness of the importance of women's equal access to land as a factor for development and for achieving substantive equality of women with men, as well as by promoting joint land titles and/or women's land titles;
- (b) Ensure that the new legal framework governing land ownership is fully compliant with the international human rights legal framework relevant to evictions and that women enjoy fair and equitable compensation, including land reallocation, on an equal footing with men;
- (c) Ensure that the interests of local communities, including rural women, are protected when developing land policies and allocating land, including through a meaningful consultation process.”

His Excellency
Mr. Marciano Octavio Garcia Da Silva
Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Rue Pestalozzi 7
1202 Geneva

Email: geral@timorlestemission.ch



The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Timor-Leste 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 **4,000 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. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hilary Gbedemah'.

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