



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

PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

REFERENCE: CAT/ Follow-up/CAT

20 August 2018

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Committee against Torture, I have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the combined third and fourth periodic reports of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in accordance with the Guidelines for follow-up to concluding observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of the 53rd session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations (CAT/C/VEN/CO/3-4, para. 24) requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 8 (b) and (d), 9 and 10 (a) and (e) of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow me to express appreciation for your letter of 17 August 2017 providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/VEN/CO/3-4/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Impunity (paras. 8 (b) and (d))

While appreciating the statistical data provided by the State party on prosecutions and convictions for acts of torture and ill-treatment in 2015, the Committee remains concerned at the lack of information available regarding the punishment of perpetrators and redress provided to victims. The Committee invites the State party to provide updated information about the measures it has taken to fully implement this recommendation (2/B2).

.../...

H.E. Mr. Jorge Valero
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
to the United Nations Office and
other International Organizations in Geneva



Arbitrary detention and due process guarantees (para. 9)

The Committee thanks the State party for the extensive and detailed information provided. It regrets, however, that no reference is made to the cases of Leopoldo López, Daniel Ceballos and others who had been arbitrarily detained during the period under review. In addition, the Committee would appreciate receiving additional information about the results of the monitoring in practice of compliance with fundamental legal safeguards (2/C).

Torture and ill-treatment of persons arrested during protests (para.10 (a) and (e))

While taking note of the above-mentioned statistics regarding investigations and prosecutions for acts of torture and ill-treatment, the Committee reiterates its concern at the lack of information on the punishment of perpetrators and the redress provided to the victims (2/C).

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela 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 third and fourth periodic report of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

The Committee looks forward to a continued constructive dialogue with the authorities of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the implementation of the Convention.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Abdelwahab Hani
Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Committee against Torture