



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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1 December 2014

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the examination of the second periodic report of Kuwait.

As you know, in paragraph 33 of its concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 18, 19 and 25 of the concluding observations.

On 6 April 2013, the State party submitted information on these paragraphs. During the 109th session of the Committee, held in October 2013 in Geneva, the Committee considered that the reply on paragraphs 18, 19 and 25 was partially satisfactory, but that additional and more precise information was required on the following issues:

- Paragraph 18: [C1] The Committee considered that the recommendation has not yet been implemented, and the State party's reply does not provide new information with regard to the creation of the general authority. The Committee considered it necessary to request additional information on the expected timeline for the creation of the authority mentioned in accordance with Act No. 6/2010, and on measures taken by the authority to "eliminate the negative aspects of the sponsorship system" since the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations.
- Paragraph 19: [B1] The Committee noted that the State party has made substantial progress in implementing the recommendation contained in paragraph 19, but additional information is required about the application of the new law adopted.

His Excellency Mr. Jamal M. I. Alghunaim
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
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- Paragraph 25: [E] The Committee noted that the exercise of the freedom of expression has become more of a concern since the last review. It also noted that the State party has not withdrawn from its previous stand that the freedom of expression falls outside the mandate of the Ministry of Interior, with a resulting lack of reply on the implementation of paragraph 25 of the Committee's concluding observations. It further has not provided any information on measures taken to comply with paragraph 25. The Committee considered that the State party has not provided any information on measures taken to comply with paragraph 25 and decided not to request additional information from the State party on the implementation of paragraph 25.

On 28 April 2014, the Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee sent you a letter of reminder. During its 112th session held in Geneva in October 2014, the Committee noted that no reply was received.

Taking this situation into account, the Committee decided to send a second reminder to the State party, requesting that the above-mentioned additional information be submitted to the Committee.

The next follow-up report will be adopted in March 2015. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, a **Word electronic version** of the reply should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **15 January 2015** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org) and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

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

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

Fabián Omar Salvioli
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee