



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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29 August 2016

Excellency,

In our respective capacities as Chairperson of the Committee against Torture and Rapporteur of the Committee for Follow-up to Concluding Observations, we have the honor to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the second periodic reports of Japan, in accordance with the Guidelines for Follow-Up to Concluding Observations (CAT/C/55/3).

At the end of its 50th session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. The Committee's concluding observations CAT/C/JPN/CO/2, para. 29 requested the State Party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 10, 11, 15 and 19 of the concluding observations.

On behalf of the Committee, allow us to express appreciation for your letter of 13 March 2013, providing your Government's response on the above-mentioned paragraphs (CAT/C/JPN/CO/2/Add.1), and to make the following comments:

Daiyo Kangoku (substitute detention system) (para. 10)

While the Committee appreciates the extensive information provided by the State party, it remains concerned over the continued lack of fundamental legal safeguards under the Daiyo Kangoku system of detention. It is also concerned that no measures have been taken to ensure in practice the separation between the police investigation and detention functions. Therefore, the Committee considers that this recommendation has not been implemented. Please provide updated information to the Committee should any steps be taken to initiate legal or practical changes in these areas (3/C).

Interrogation and confessions (para. 11)

The Committee appreciates the extensive information provided by the State party and takes note of the clarifications provided. The Committee commends the State party for the substantive steps taken to establish a new criminal justice system (3/B1)

Death penalty (para. 15)

The Committee appreciates the extensive and thorough information provided by the State party with regard to the conditions of detention of prisoners sentenced to death. However, it considers that the recommendations made have not been implemented. Please inform the Committee should any steps be taken to initiate legal or practical changes in this regard (3/C).

.../...

H.E. Mr. Junichi Ihara
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
E-mail: mission@gv.mofa.go.jp

Victims of military sexual slavery (para. 19)

The Committee appreciates the extensive information provided by the State party. While acknowledging the efforts reflected in the contribution to the Asian Women Fund, the Committee considers that the information provided only partially addresses its recommendations. In particular, this applies to the recommendations regarding the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators; public apologies to victims; as well as, adopting a victim-centred approach to the provision of redress. The Committee would appreciate receiving updated information on any new measures taken in this regard (2/B2).

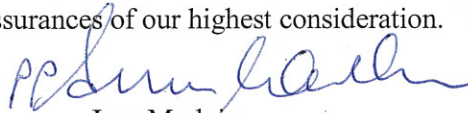
Other issues

The Committee also appreciates and takes notes of the information provided by the State party regarding the prohibition of corporal punishment.

The Government of Japan 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 second periodic report of Japan.

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

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Jens Modyig
Chairperson
Committee against Torture

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

