



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:KF/fup-113

13 April 2015

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 follow-up to the examination of the sixth periodic report of Finland.

At the end of its 108th session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 19 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 10, 11 and 16 of the concluding observations.

On 23 June 2014, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 113th session, held from 16 March to 2 April 2015, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 10: **(i)[B2]:** Concerning the project to revise the legislation on the detention of aliens, additional information is required on the steps taken since the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations on 24 July 2013, particularly on:
 - (a) the progress on the adoption of such legislation, including information on when the new law is expected to be adopted;
 - (b) the alternative to detentions provided for in the legislation, including for adults; and
 - (c) guarantees to ensure that administrative detention for immigration purposes is justified as reasonable, necessary and proportionate, including for detention of adults.
- (ii) [C2]:** Concerning the living conditions in the Metsälä detention centre, additional information is requested on the number of irregular migrants and asylum seekers detained in the last 3 years, as well as the length of detention and the capacity of the detention center.

Her Excellency Ms. Päivi Kairamo
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Fax: 022 740 02 87



- Paragraph 11: **(i)[C1]:** The Committee regrets that the reform of the Coercive Measures Act, which took effect on 1 January 2014, has not implemented the Committee's recommendation to ensure that persons arrested on criminal charges are brought before a judge within 48 hours of initial apprehension. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

[C1]: Concerning the right to legal assistance, information is required on practical measures taken to ensure that all suspects are guaranteed the right to a lawyer from the moment of apprehension.

- Paragraph 16: **(i)[B2]:** The Committee takes note of the proposed revision of the Act on the Sami Parliament (974/1995) and of the legislative project concerning the reorganisation of Metsähallitus, but requests additional information on:

(a) the progress on the adoption of the two legislative proposals; and

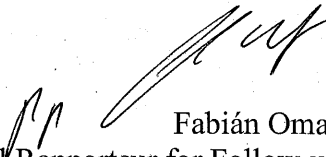
(b) how the State party ensures that Sami people participates in the discussion on the revision of the Act on the Sami Parliament and the legislative project concerning the reorganisation of Metsähallitus.

(ii)[B2]: Concerning the measures taken to facilitate education in their own language for all Sami children in the territory of the State party, additional information is required on the nation-wide action plan to revive the Sami language and its impact on education in Sami language.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in July 2015. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **1 May 2015** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Finish authorities 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