## HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 100<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Sweden, pursuant to article 9 (1) of the Convention and rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 9, 17(d) and 19(b) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/SWE/CO/22-23), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> periodic reports, at its 95<sup>th</sup> session held in April-May 2018.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its combined 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 5 January 2023.

## Paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party regarding the establishment of a ministry inquiry on the establishment of a national human rights institution, as well as on the current consultation on this matter. However, it regrets the limited progress to establish such an institution. The Committee considers the response of the State party unsatisfactory and reiterates its recommendation to expeditiously establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, and to provide it with sufficient human and financial resources to discharge its mandate effectively and independently.

Her Excellency Ms. Veronika Bard Permanent Representative of the Sweden to the United Nations Office Geneva <a href="mailto:sweden.geneva@gov.se">sweden.geneva@gov.se</a>

## Paragraph 17(d) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the predator policy of 2013 and takes note of the challenges regarding the protection of reindeer husbandry as a Sámi indigenous peoples' right. It remains, however, concerned at reports that Sami reindeer herding communities are still facing difficulties in obtaining compensation for damage caused by predators. The Committee considers the response to this recommendation partially satisfactory and encourages the State party to continue its efforts to evaluate the implementation of the predator policy, as well as the system for financial compensation, in consultation with the Sámi Parliament and Sámi villages, with a view to developing new strategies and tools for the protection of reindeer husbandry.

## Paragraph 19(b) of the Concluding Observations

The Committee welcomes the general information on the measures to combat hate crime, particularly the actions taken by the Swedish Police Authority. However, the Committee regrets that the State party did not indicate the specific measures taken to guarantee the security of property belonging to Muslim ethno-religious minority groups. While noting that a new ordinance on State grants for security-enhancing measures to civil society organizations entered into force in October 2018, the Committee regrets that the State party did not take adequate and concrete measures to ensure funding and affordable insurance for the safety of mosques and other common property. The Committee considers the response of the State party partially satisfactory and encourages the State party to strengthen its efforts to fully implement this recommendation.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Sweden, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

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

Yours sincerely,

Noureddine Amir Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination