



REFERENCE: CERD/100<sup>th</sup> session/FU/MJA/ks

13 December 2019

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 Belarus, 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 and 24(b) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/BLR/CO/20-23), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> periodic reports, at its 94<sup>th</sup> session held in November – December 2017.

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 8 May 2020.

### **Paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations**

The Committee thanks the State Party for its reply. It regrets, however, the absence of information on judicial cases in which the Convention has been expressly invoked and applied by national courts. It considers that this recommendation has not been satisfactorily addressed and reiterates its request that the State party provide, in its next periodic report, information on the number and type of cases in which judges, prosecutors and lawyers have directly invoked the Convention.

His Excellency Mr. Yury Ambrazevich  
Permanent Representative of Belarus  
to the United Nations Office  
Geneva  
[belarus.geneva@mfa.gov.by](mailto:belarus.geneva@mfa.gov.by)

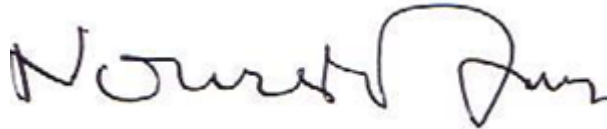
### **Paragraph 24(b) of the Concluding Observations**

The Committee welcomes the amendments to Presidential Decree No. 3 (2015), which fully remove the provisions concerning the payment of a tax to finance State expenditure by unemployed citizens capable of work, as well as the provisions concerning the initiation of administrative proceedings for failure to pay such a tax. The Committee also notes with appreciation that the new version of Presidential Decree No. 3, which was renamed “Decree on the promotion of employment”, aims at strengthening the efforts made by the authorities to provide citizens with the utmost assistance with job placement and at stimulating employment and self-employment. The Committee considers that the response to this recommendation is satisfactory and recommends that the State party provide, in its next periodic report, updated information and data on the implementation and impact of the new version of Presidential Decree No. 3 on disadvantaged ethnic minorities, including Roma.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Belarus, 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,



Nouredine Amir  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination