



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on follow-up on concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honour to refer to the examination of the seventh periodic reports of Angola, at the Committee's seventy-second session, held in March 2019. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/AGO/CO/7](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 56 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Angola to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 (a), 16 (a), 42 (c) and 46 (b) of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report received in March 2021 ([CEDAW/C/AGO/FCO/7](#)) under the CEDAW follow-up procedure. At its seventy-ninth session, held remotely due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in June 2021, the Committee examined this follow-up report and adopted the following assessment.

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 14 (a)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to **“accelerate the process of the decentralization of the courts and the creation of out-of-court dispute settlement centres throughout the State party, in particular in rural areas, accompanying that process with the provision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations, in order to ensure access for women to justice and better address the intersecting forms of discrimination faced by women, in particular women in rural areas, women with disabilities, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women, in line with commitments made in the context of the second review cycle of the State party under the universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council ([A/HRC/28/11](#), para. 134.112);”**:

The Committee notes with appreciation the information on steps taken to continue the implementation of the law and justice reform initiative, which includes the adoption of the Criminal Code no. 38/20 and the Code of Criminal Procedure no. 39/20. The Committee also takes notes that in order to ensure access to justice, including in remote areas, the State party replaced provincial courts with 60 district courts and established additional five appeal courts. The Committee also notes that additional out-of-court dispute settlement centres are being established at the provincial offices of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Furthermore, in accordance with Act no. 15/95 on legal aid, free legal assistance is provided to groups in vulnerable situations and 3,040 benefited from these services from January to August 2019. Despite these positive developments, the Committee is concerned about the lack of information on steps taken to ensure the access of women to justice by providing procedural and age-appropriate accommodations to address intersecting forms of discrimination faced by women,

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including women with disabilities, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women. The Committee considers that the State party took substantial action towards the implementation of the recommendation, but that this action fails to respond fully to the recommendation by the Committee. It considers that the recommendation has been **substantially implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is thorough and extensive. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 14 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

**Ensure women's access to justice through the provision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations to address the intersecting forms of discrimination faced by women, in particular women in rural areas, women with disabilities, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women.**

In relation to the recommendation made in **paragraph 16 (a)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**expedite the adoption of the action plan for the implementation of the national policy on gender equality and equity and incorporate a results-oriented approach, based on specific indicators and targets to measure outcomes and progress achieved towards its implementation, ensuring systematic and regular monitoring and reporting**”:

The Committee takes note of the information by the State party on awareness-raising measures and the dissemination of the national policy on gender equality and equity, as well as the implementation of projects on the national level in line with the policy. However, the Committee regrets that the action plan for the implementation of the national policy is not adopted yet, without providing details on reasons preventing its adoption. Thus, the Committee considers that the State party has taken no action to implement the recommendation. It considers that the recommendation has **not been implemented**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is vague and that it fails to address the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **unsatisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 16 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

**Expedite the adoption of the action plan for the implementation of the national policy on gender equality and equity and incorporate a results-oriented approach, based on specific indicators and targets to measure outcomes and progress achieved towards its implementation, ensuring systematic and regular monitoring and reporting.**

With regard to the recommendation made in **paragraph 42 (c)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**ensure the prior, free and informed consent of all women living in areas affected before the approval of any acquisition of land or the implementation of resource exploitation projects on rural land, including projects relating to the lease and sale of land, land expropriation and resettlement, and guarantee that they are adequately compensated**”:

The Committee notes the information by the State party on the preparation of amendments to the Land Act no. 9/04 to introduce new requirements as safeguards for women's right to own property. The Committee also takes note of the organization of five public

consultations between 2018 and 2019 in accordance with the Mining Act, which states that the mining entity must establish consultation mechanisms that allow local communities affected by mining projects to participate actively in decisions related to the protection of their rights and that such consultations are mandatory in all cases in which the implementation of mining projects may cause the destruction of or damage to material, cultural and historical assets. As for land expropriation, the Committee notes the information on the adoption of the Act No. 1/21 in 2021 which grantee fair compensation based on private negotiation and agreement between parties or by judicial means in case an agreement is not reached. Despite these developments, the Committee regrets the lack of information on the targeted safeguards to ensure the effective participation and free and informed consent of women regarding such activities and projects, as well as the measures to effectively implement these regulations and the compliance level. Thus, the Committee considers that there is a **lack of sufficient information to make an assessment**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is incomplete and vague and that it fails to respond fully to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **unsatisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 42 (c)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

**Accelerate the review of the Land Act no. 9/04, ensure the prior, free and informed consent of all women living in areas affected before the approval of any acquisition of land or the implementation of resource exploitation projects on rural land, including projects relating to the lease and sale of land, land expropriation and resettlement, and guarantee that they are adequately compensated.**

Regarding the recommendation made in **paragraph 46 (b)** of the concluding observations, urging the State party to “**cease the extradition, deportation, expulsion or other forms of removal of asylum-seeking and migrant women and girls from the territory of the State party to the territory of another State when there are substantial grounds to believe that there is a real risk of irreparable harm and protect those women from such practices**”:

The Committee notes the adoption of the Act No. 13/19 of 23 May 2019 on the judicial regime for citizens and the national migration policy, as well as the accession to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The Committee also takes note of the information on the meetings between Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in August 2019 in order to organize the facilitated or organized voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees settled in the province of Lunda Norte, as well as registering and granting residency to former refugees from Liberia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone. The Committee is concerned, however, about the lack of information on compliance and implementation of these regulations. The Committee notes that according to the State party are no data on mass or individual expulsion of refugees and migrants, in particular women, to countries in which their lives may be at risk. The Committee regrets the lack of information on how these adopted measures prevent the extradition and deportation of asylum-seeking and migrant women and girls from its territory to the territory of another State when there are substantial grounds to believe that there is a real risk of irreparable harm and protect those women from such practices. The Committee considers that there is a **lack of sufficient information to make an assessment**.

The Committee notes that the information provided by the State party is incomplete and fails to respond fully to the recommendation. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **unsatisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 46 (b)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on actions taken to:



**Cease the extradition, deportation, expulsion or other forms of removal of asylum-seeking and migrant women and girls from the territory of the State party to the territory of another State when there are substantial grounds to believe that there is a real risk of irreparable harm and protect those women from such practices**

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Louiza Chalal'.

Louiza Chalal  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women