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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

REFERENCE: BN/follow-up/Armenia/91

4 July 2025

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 honor to refer to the examination of the seventh periodic report of Armenia, at the Committee's eighty-third session, held in October 2022. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/ARM/CO/7) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 58 on follow-up to the concluding observations, the Committee requested Armenia to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 (d), 14, 32 (a) and 36 (b) of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the follow-up report (<u>CEDAW/C/ARM/FCO/7</u>) received with two months delay on 21 January 2025 under the CEDAW follow-up procedure. At its ninety-first session, held in June and July 2025, the Committee examined this follow-up report and adopted the following assessment.

Regarding the recommendation made in paragraph 12 (d) of the concluding observations that the State party "integrate gender-responsive budgeting into the national action plans for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), define indicators for regular monitoring of their implementation and establish accountability mechanisms":

The Committee takes note of the development of the Third National Action Plan for 2025-2027 for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the State party's efforts to integrate gender budgeting into national action plans, including the development of a gender-responsive budgeting manual and training for relevant staff across all ministries. It notes that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has adopted gender-sensitive budgeting with external expert assistance and that the Ministry of Finance has consistently distributed GRB guidelines to sectoral departments since 2020. The Committee regrets, however, that the information provided does not demonstrate how gender-responsive budgeting has been specifically integrated into the national action plans for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), as recommended. It further regrets the absence of information on specific indicators defined for regular monitoring of implementation and the establishment of accountability mechanisms.

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The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps toward implementing gender-responsive budgeting but has not addressed the specific integration into NAPs 1325 or established monitoring and accountability mechanisms. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **been partially implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates partially to the recommendation but lacks specific details on integration into NAPs 1325 and monitoring mechanisms. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 12 (d)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Integrate gender-responsive budgeting into the national action plans for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), define indicators for regular monitoring of their implementation and establish accountability mechanisms.

Regarding the recommendation made in paragraph 14 of the concluding observations that the State party "expedite adoption of the draft law on legal equality, and ensure that the new legislation prohibits discrimination against women, including direct and indirect discrimination in the public and private spheres, as well as intersecting forms of discrimination, in line with articles 1 and 2 of the Convention, the Committee's general recommendation No. 28 and target 5.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals on ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere":

The Committee takes note of the draft law on "Ensuring Equality and Protection from Discrimination" which defines the concept of discrimination and its types, including direct discrimination, indirect discrimination, incitement to discrimination, harassment, segregation, victimization, intersectional discrimination, and the failure to provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. It notes that the draft includes protection mechanisms and procedures and provides for the establishment of an equality body in accordance with international standards. The Committee regrets, however, that no information has been provided on the timeline for adoption of the draft law or concrete steps taken to expedite its adoption, as recommended.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken steps to prepare comprehensive antidiscrimination legislation but has not expedited its adoption. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **been partially implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates directly to the recommendation but lacks details on the adoption process and timeline. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

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

Expedite adoption of the draft law on legal equality, and ensure that the new legislation prohibits discrimination against women, including direct and indirect discrimination in the public and private spheres, as well as intersecting forms of discrimination, in line with articles 1



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and 2 of the Convention, the Committee's general recommendation No. 28 and target 5.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Regarding the recommendation made in paragraph 32 (a) of the concluding observations that the State party "expedite the investigation and prosecution of all acts of harassment, gender-based violence, discrimination and intimidation perpetuated against women human rights defenders by non-state actors, provide remedies and reparations to victims, and establish a dedicated register of such incidents, including gender-sensitive indicators, disaggregated data and publicly available statistics":

The Committee takes note of the amendments introduced in 2024 to the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence, including clarification of definitions, recognition of children as indirect victims, and modifications to protective order procedures. It notes the launch of an electronic database for centralized registration of domestic violence cases in 2024 with support from UNFPA, which aims to enhance data collection and analysis of domestic violence prevalence. The Committee regrets, however, that the information provided focuses on general domestic violence rather than addressing the specific recommendation concerning women human rights defenders. It further regrets the absence of information on measures taken to expedite investigation and prosecution of acts of harassment, gender-based violence, discrimination and intimidation perpetrated specifically against women human rights defenders by non-state actors, or on the establishment of a dedicated register for such incidents with gender-sensitive indicators and publicly available statistics.

The Committee considers that the State party has not addressed the specific focus of the recommendation on women human rights defenders. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **not been implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party does not relate to the recommendation and fails to address the specific protection needs of women human rights defenders. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **unsatisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 32 (a)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Expedite the investigation and prosecution of all acts of harassment, gender-based violence, discrimination and intimidation perpetuated against women human rights defenders by non-state actors, provide remedies and reparations to victims, and establish a dedicated register of such incidents, including gender-sensitive indicators, disaggregated data and publicly available statistics.

Regarding the recommendation made in paragraph 36 (b) of the concluding observations that the State party "abolish the list of non-recommended occupations restricting women's access to certain occupations, facilitate women's access to such occupations and ensure that any restrictions are proportionate and applied on a case-by-case basis rather than across the board":

The Committee takes note of the State party's reference to Government Decree 2308-N of December 29, 2005, which approves a list of jobs considered hard and harmful for persons under 18 years of age, pregnant women, and women caring for children under one year of age, adopted to fulfill



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international obligations under the Revised European Social Charter. It notes the measures taken to increase women's participation in the police force, including raising the age threshold for service acceptance to 35 years and reducing height requirements for women from 160 cm to 155 cm. The Committee notes the State party's indication that "the list of non-recommended jobs is not provided by the legal acts" regulating the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Committee regrets, however, that no information has been provided on steps taken to abolish the general list of non-recommended occupations restricting women's access to certain occupations or to ensure that restrictions are applied on a case-by-case basis rather than across the board, as recommended.

The Committee considers that the State party has taken some steps to facilitate women's access to specific occupations but has not addressed the broader recommendation to abolish restrictive lists. It therefore considers that the recommendation has **been partially implemented**.

The Committee considers that the information provided by the State party relates partially to the recommendation but does not address the core issue of abolishing restrictive occupational lists. It thus considers that the quality of the information provided is **partially satisfactory**.

The Committee recommends that, in relation to **paragraph 36 (b)** of the concluding observations, the State party provide, **in its next periodic report**, information on further actions taken to:

Abolish the list of non-recommended occupations restricting women's access to certain occupations, facilitate women's access to such occupations and ensure that any restrictions are proportionate and applied on a case-by-case basis rather than across the board.

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

Yours sincerely,

Jelena Pia-Comella Rapporteur on follow-up

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women