



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: MK/follow-up/63/United Republic of Tanzania/71

14 January 2019

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 combined seventh and eighth periodic report of the United Republic of Tanzania, at the Committee's sixty-third session, held in February 2016. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/TZA/CO/7-8) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 60 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the United Republic of Tanzania to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11 (c), 19 (b) and 51, of the concluding observations, namely:

“11. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(c) Harmonize, without delay, customary and religious law with statutory law and ensure alignment with the provisions of the Convention.”

“19. The Committee urges the State party:

(b) To effectively implement, in the light of joint general recommendation No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women/general comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on harmful practices (2014), the existing legal provisions prohibiting harmful practices, ensuring that all harmful practices, including those specified in paragraph 18 (b) above, are investigated, prosecuted and adequately punished and that victims of harmful practices have access to effective remedies and adequate protection mechanisms. The State party should also adopt new legal provisions, as necessary.”

51. “The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To take immediate action to implement the Committee's views concerning communication No. 48/2013 regarding reparation and compensation for the authors of the communication and inform the Committee without delay of all measures taken and planned as a consequence of its recommendations;

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(b) To take all measures necessary to repeal or amend discriminatory customary law provisions and harmonize competing legal systems governing succession or inheritance in the State party, provide training to judges (including cadis), prosecutors and lawyers, on the Convention, enhance women's knowledge of their rights under the Convention and prohibit excessive formalism and undue delays in courts."

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in March 2018 and a request to focus on follow-up recommendations and to submit in word format was sent by e-mail, on 14 September 2018, only a PDF version of the report, which does not focus on the follow-up recommendations received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the United Republic of Tanzania on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4,000 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a Word electronic version of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to cedaw@ohchr.org. For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Gbedemah
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women