



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS DEFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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REFERENCE: CERD/97th session/FU/MJA/oy

14 December 2018

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 97<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, 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 of the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 and 14 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/TJK/CO/9-11), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, at its 93<sup>rd</sup> session held in July-August 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 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 10 February 2020.

**Paragraph 12 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee appreciates the statistics disaggregated by gender and ethnicity on the ethnic minorities' representation within public institutions. It welcomes the special measures for women provided in Presidential Decree No. 647. It requests that the State party adopt further steps including special measures to further improve the representation of ethnic minorities at all levels of the public and political life.

His Excellency Mr. Jamshed Khamidov Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations Office Geneva tajikistanmission@bluewin.ch - tajmission.gva@mfa.tj



**Paragraph 14 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee regrets that the State party does not recognize the need to develop a concrete plan of action or strategy to combat against direct and indirect discrimination and stigmatization against Roma/Jughi, and urges the State party to reconsider its position.

The Committee also urges the State party to ensure Roma/Jughi children, including Roma/Jughi girls, have access to quality education by, inter alia, taking measures to reduce the absenteeism and the drop-out of Roma/Jughi children and facilitate their access to the secondary and the higher education. The Committee further urges the State party remove the obstacles that prevent Roma/Jughi people to obtain personal documents and to register at their place of residence.

The Committee calls on the State party to adopt special measures to improve the Roma/Jughi peoples' enjoyment of their rights to adequate housing, health-care, social services on an equal footing with the other groups of its population, and firmly prevent and combat their exploitation. It requests the State party to report on these measures and their impact in its next periodic report.

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