



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: YH/follow-up/Andorra/63

13 May 2016

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 second and third periodic reports of the Principality of Andorra, at the Committee's fifty-sixth session, held in October 2013. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/AND/CO/2-3) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 42 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Principality of Andorra to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 22 and 32 of the concluding observations, namely:

“22. The Committee urges the State party:

- (a) To ensure the adoption of a comprehensive law addressing all forms of violence against women, establishing measures to prevent and combat them;
- (b) To amend the Criminal Code to criminalize all forms of violence against women, including sexual violence and stalking, and establish measures to provide victims with redress;
- (c) To strengthen its efforts to prevent violence against women, including by conducting awareness-raising and education campaigns to inform women and girls about their right to be free from violence and about available support and legal remedies for victims;
- (d) To provide adequate assistance to women victims of violence, including migrant women, and ensure that victims have access to legal remedies, such as restraining orders, and to shelters and medical and psychosocial support, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;
- (e) To provide public funding to non-governmental organizations that operate shelters;

His Excellency
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(f) To provide training to the police on gender-sensitive methods for investigating cases of violence against women and for providing age-appropriate advice to victims, taking into consideration their socioeconomic situation;

(g) To accelerate the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.”

“32. In line with its general recommendation No. 24 on women and health, the Committee calls upon the State party:

(a) To decriminalize abortion and provide access to legal abortion in cases of threats to the life or health of the pregnant woman, rape, incest and severe foetal impairment;

(b) To ensure affordable access for women and girls to modern methods of contraception and educate them about the risks of early pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

(c) To ensure affordable access for all migrant women and girls to the health-care system and consider amending the legislation restricting access to health care on the basis of legal residence;

(d) To devise and implement gender-sensitive programmes to prevent HIV/AIDS and include disadvantaged and marginalized groups of women, such as those in prostitution and migrant women, therein.”

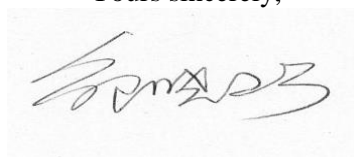
Although the information sought by the Committee was due in October 2015, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government’s response on the matters, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Principality of Andorra on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4000 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,



Xiaoqiao Zou
Rapporteur on follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women