Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the recommendations contained in paragraphs 7, 10 and 23 of the concluding observations on the report submitted by Angola (CCPR/C/AGO/CO/1), adopted by the Committee at its 107th session in March 2013.

At its 112th session, held in October 2014, the Committee evaluated the information provided by the State party and requested additional information on the implementation of the recommendations selected for the follow-up procedure.

On 23 November 2015, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 118th session, held in October-November 2016, the Committee evaluated this information. The assessment of the Committee and the additional information requested from the State party are reflected in the Report on follow-up to concluding observations (see CCPR/C/118/2). I hereby attach a copy of the advanced unedited version of the relevant section of the said report.

The Committee considered that the recommendations have not been fully implemented and decided to request additional information on their implementation. Taking into account that the next periodic report of the State party is due by 28 March 2017, the Committee requests the State party to provide this information in the context of its next periodic report.

The Secretary of the Human Rights Committee, Ms. Kate Fox, can be contacted for any additional information (kfox@ohchr.org and ccpr@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the State party on the implementation of the Covenant.

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

Sarah Cleveland
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee

His Excellency
Mr. Apolinário Jorge Correia
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
Fax: 022 732 30 72
Email: ambmission.angola@bluewin.ch
Assessment of replies

Reply/action satisfactory

A  Response largely satisfactory

Reply/action partially satisfactory

B1  Substantive action taken, but additional information required

B2  Initial action taken, but additional information and measures required

Reply/action not satisfactory

C1  Response received but actions taken do not implement the recommendation

C2  Response received but not relevant to the recommendation

No cooperation with the Committee

D1  No response received within the deadline, or no reply to a specific question in the report

D2  No response received after reminder(s)

The measures taken are contrary to the Committee’s recommendations

E  Response indicates that the measures taken are contrary to the Committee’s recommendations

Angola

Concluding observations:  CCPR/C/AGO/CO/1, 27 March 2013

Follow-up paragraphs:  7, 10 and 23

First reply:  24 June 2014

Committee’s evaluation:  Paragraph 23[A]. Additional information required on paragraphs 7[C1], 10[B1][B2][C1][C1], and 23[B1].

Second reply:  23 November 2015

Committee’s evaluation:  Paragraphs 7[B2], 10[B1][B2][C1][C1], and 23[A] (previously evaluated, see CCPR/C/112/2 and [B1])

Paragraph 7: The State party should revise the Ombudsman Law to ensure that it complies with the Paris Principles (General Assembly resolution 48/134, annex) or establish a new national human rights institution with a broad human rights mandate in line with the same principles.

Follow-up question:

[C1]: Additional information is required regarding whether the State party intends to revise the law on the Ombudsman to ensure that it fully complies with the Paris Principles, or if the State party intends to establish a new national human rights institution that complies with the Paris Principles.

Summary of State party’s reply:

The State party repeated information provided in its first Follow-up report
Angola

(CCPR/C/AGO/CO/1/Add.1 paras 9 and 11) on the Office of the Ombudsman being in conformity with the Paris Principles. It is studying the possibility of establishing an NHRI that complies with the Principles. A proposition to modify the status of the Ombudsman is currently being studied.

Committee’s evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee notes the information provided by the State party on the initiative to modify the status of the Ombudsman, but requests additional information on the progress and content of the initiative and whether it is in line with the Paris Principles. The Committee reiterates its request in this regard.

Paragraph 10: The State party should adopt a national strategy to prevent and address gender-based violence in all its forms and manifestations. In this regard, the State party should collect data to establish the magnitude of the problem, its causes and consequences on women. The State party should also adopt measures to ensure the effective application of Law 25/11 of 14 July 2011 against domestic violence by domestic courts and law enforcement officials. The State party should further ensure that cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated, perpetrators prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate sanctions; victims should be adequately compensated. Furthermore, the State party should strengthen its measures of protection and prevention, in particular by increasing the number of shelters and providing rehabilitation to victims. It should pursue awareness-raising campaigns among the population on the issue of domestic violence and its negative effects on women and girls.

Follow-up question:

(a)[B1]: The Committee commends Angola for adopting legislative measures to better protect women against violence, including the executive plan to fight against domestic violence and the presidential decree that regulates the Law 25/11 against domestic violence. It requires, however, information on the implementation and impact of such legislative measures.

(b)[B2]: The Committee notes the statistical information provided but requests updated statistical information on cases of violence against women, including domestic violence, and investigations, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators in the last three years (2012, 2013 and 2014). The Committee also requests additional information on the progress of the study currently being carried out to identify and examine the cultural, religious and social factors that favour violence against women. Please also provide information on the functioning and the impact of the department on domestic violence created within the National Directorate of Criminal Investigation.

(c)[C1]: On measures of protection and prevention, the Committee notes that no information was provided on measures taken after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations on 27 March 2013. It requires additional information on measures taken or envisaged to be taken to protect and prevent gender-based violence. Please report on the number of shelters created or envisaged to be created and measures taken to improve the services provided for the rehabilitation of victims.

(d)[C1]: Concerning the awareness-raising campaigns on the issue of domestic violence, the Committee notes that no information was provided on campaigns carried out after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations on 27 March 2013. Additional information is required on the UNITE initiative and on any other campaign carried out after 27 March 2013.

Summary of State party’s reply:

(a) The State party noted that a Multi-sectorial Technical Committee was established for the implementation, evaluation and monitoring of the Executive Plan to combat domestic violence. The committee has conducted several activities and trainings, as well as television and radio debates on domestic violence. As a result, the Executive Plan to combat domestic
Angola violence has enabled people to break the silence and to denounced cases of violence.

(b) The State party provided updated statistical information on cases of violence against women. In 2014, the department on domestic violence of the National Directorate of Criminal Investigations registered 3076 domestic violence cases. Most of the cases concern physical and psychological violence and abandoning the family, and victims are mostly women and children.

(c) The State party is conducting several projects for the construction of family counselling centres and is conducting training for family and legal advisers. Eight shelters are currently open and one shelter is under construction.

(d) Concerning awareness-raising campaigns, the State party mentioned the launching of several campaigns such as the UNITE initiative and the “Zero Tolerance” campaign aimed at raising awareness about domestic violence.

Committee’s evaluation:

[B1](a): The Committee appreciates the information provided by the State party on the implementation of legislative measures to better protect women against violence, but requests clarification on which measures were taken after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations, on 27 March 2013. The Committee also requests information on the financial and human resources allocated to the Multi-sectorial Technical Committee and whether they are sufficient to perform its functions.

[B2](b): The Committee welcomes the updated statistical information provided by the State party on cases of violence against women. The Committee however reiterates its requests for statistics on the number of investigations, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of domestic violence and compensation to victims in the last three years, and for information regarding the study to identify and examine the cultural, religious and social factors that favour violence against women. It also reiterates its request for information on the functioning and the impact of the department on domestic violence created within the National Directorate of Criminal Investigation.

[C1](c): The Committee appreciates the information on the number of shelters, but requests information on the shelters created after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations, on 27 March 2013, and updated information on the shelter under construction, as well as information on measures taken to improve the services provided for the rehabilitation of victims.

[C1](d): The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the UNITE and Zero Tolerance initiatives, but reiterates its request for further information on awareness-raising campaigns carried out after 27 March 2013.

Paragraph 23: The State party should finalize the adoption of the new decree on free birth registration for all children and adults, and improve its official system of birth registration. It should also conduct awareness-raising campaigns on birth registration procedures within communities, in particular in rural areas.

Follow-up question:

[A]: The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Presidential Decree 80/13 and the Executive Decree 309/1 on free birth registration and free identification card for all children and adults and hopes that the measure will continue beyond 31 December 2016.

[B1]: Additional information is required on:

(a) Awareness-raising campaigns on birth registration procedures after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations;

(b) Measures taken to improve the official system of birth registration, since the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations.

Summary of the State party’s reply:

In order to meet the objectives of the Presidential Order 80/13 and the Executive Decree
Angola

309/13 the State adopted a number of measures, such as distributing leaflets and creating TV and radio ads on civil registration. The number of registrations increased to five thousand in consuls in South Africa, Zambia and Namibia and specific campaigns for registrations were organized in consular missions.

19 new registration services opened and an information and statistics processing program was developed for birth registrations. The number of Angolans that hold a birth certificate increased more than 10% increase.

Committee’s evaluation:

[A]: See previous evaluation, CCPR/C/112/2.

[B1]: The Committee welcomes the improvements achieved by the State party regarding birth registrations, but reiterates its request of information on measures adopted after the adoption of the Committee’s concluding observations. The State party should also indicate when the 19 new registration services where established.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent informing the State party of the discontinuation of the follow-up procedure. The information requested should be included in the State party’s next periodic report.