2 December 2013.

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 examination of the sixth periodic report of Norway at the Committee’s 103rd session, held in October 2011.

At the end of that session, the Committee’s concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 17 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 5, 10 and, 12 of the concluding observations.

On 3 December 2012, the Committee received the follow-up report of the State party. The Committee analyzed the information provided at its 107th session in March 2013, and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 5: The Committee considered it necessary to request additional information on (i) the decision made by the inter-ministerial group on the shape of the new national human rights institution; (ii) the precise mandate, objectives, activities, and monitoring mechanisms of the new institution.

- Paragraph 10: The Committee considered that additional action was required (i) to reduce the use of force against mental health patients; and (ii) to strengthen the monitoring and reporting system in mental health care institutions. The Committee also considered that data was required on the use of coercive force, including electroconvulsive treatment, in the mental health care system.

- Paragraph 12: The Committee requested additional information (i) on the precise criteria for “unconditional necessity” of pre-trial detention of children; and (ii) on the measures taken to ensure that children are systematically held separately from adults.
During the 109th session of the Committee, held in Geneva in October 2013, the Committee noted that information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. Therefore, I write to request that the above-mentioned additional information be submitted at Your Government’s earliest convenience.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in March 2014. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in a Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by 5 January 2014 (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

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

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

[Signature]

Fabián Omar Salvioli
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee