9 January 2017

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 examination of the initial periodic report of Sierra Leone at the 110th session, held in March 2014.

At the end of that session, the Committee’s concluding observations (see CCPR/C/SLE/CO/1) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 26 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year (i.e. until 25 March 2015) information on the implementation of recommendations contained in paragraphs 14, 16 and 20 of the concluding observations.

In the absence of a response to the Committee’s request, the Committee sent three reminders to the State party, namely on 9 June 2015, on 19 November 2015, and on 16 August 2016. During its 118th session, held in October-November 2016, the Committee noted that, despite the reminders, the information requested from the State party had not yet been provided.

Taking into account that the next periodic report of the State party is due on 28 March 2017, the Committee discontinued the follow-up procedure and requested the State party to provide information on the implementation of all its recommendations, including of those contained in paragraphs 14, 16, and 20 of the concluding observations, in the context of its next periodic report.

Kindly also be informed that, at the same session, the Committee clarified that States parties that fail to submit a follow-up report after reminder(s) and that therefore qualify for a D grade, such as Sierra Leone, will be listed as such in the Report on follow-up to concluding observations to be adopted at the 119th session of the Committee in March 2017.

H.E. Ms. Yvette Stevens
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The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the State party on the implementation of the Covenant in the context of the next periodic report due on 28 March 2017.

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

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