



REFERENCE:KF/fup-115

10 December 2015

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 second periodic report of Armenia.

At the end of its 105th session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 28 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 12, 14 and 21 of the concluding observations.

On 8th August 2013, follow-up information on the referred paragraphs was received. At its 110th session, held in March 2014, the Committee analysed the follow-up reply provided by the State party and decided that additional information was necessary.

On 16th June 2015, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 115th session, held in October 2015, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- **Paragraph 12: [C2]:** The Committee regrets the failure of the State party to refer to any measures taken since the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations and to measures taken to guarantee that the victims of the events of 1 March 2008 receive adequate reparation including compensation and adequate medical and psychosocial rehabilitation. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

His Excellency
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- **Paragraph 14: [C2]:** The Committee regrets the failure of the State party to provide any additional information on the establishment of the independent mechanism for receiving and processing complaints regarding torture and ill-treatment in places of imprisonment, as envisaged in the Action Plan deriving from the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights. Additional information is required with respect to any progress to adopt the draft law “On making the amendments and supplements to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia”. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

- **Paragraph 21: [B1]:** The Committee welcomes the adoption of the amendments to the Judicial Code of Republic of Armenia and the measures taken to strengthen the independence of the judiciary from the executive and legislative branch. Additional information is required on:

- (a) further measures taken to establish an independent body for the appointment and promotion of judges;
- (b) on the current role performed by the executive and legislative branches in the appointment and promotion of judges;
- (c) the purpose, criteria and procedure for the psychological test, which is applied to candidates who have passed the written test; and
- (d) any internal or external assessment conducted on the quality and impact of the amendments to the Judicial Code of Republic of Armenia.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in July 2016. 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 **11 April 2016** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Armenian authorities 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