



International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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Human Rights Committee

Report on follow-up to the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee

Report of the Special Rapporteur for follow-up to concluding observations

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with rule 101, paragraph 3, of the Committee's rules of procedure, which reads: "The Special Rapporteur shall regularly report to the Committee on follow-up activities".

2. The report sets out the information received by the Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations between the 110th and 112th sessions, and the analyses and decisions adopted by the Committee during its 112th session. All the available information concerning the follow-up procedure used by the Committee since its eighty-seventh session, held in July 2006, is outlined in the table below.

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 recommendations

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 The response indicates that the measures taken are contrary to the Committee's

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Assessment of replies

recommendations

100th session (October 2010)

Hungary

Concluding observations:	CCPR/C/HUN/CO/5, 27 October 2010
Follow-up paragraphs:	6, 15, 18
First reply:	Due 28 October 2010; received 15 August 2012
Committee's evaluation:	Additional information required on paragraphs 6 [B1], 15 [B1] [D1] and 18 [B2] [D1]
Second reply:	Reply to the Committee's letters of 30 April 2013 and 2 December 2013; received 6 January 2014 and 13 January 2014

Paragraph 6**Follow-up question:**

[B1]: Information is required on:

- (i) The implementation of Act No. CXII of 2011, and in particular on the evaluation of programmes with an impact on the implementation of the Covenant;
- (ii) The measures taken to ensure that the system used to collect data on ethnicity (to evaluate the redistribution of interventions for the integration of the Roma) is compatible with the principles of the Covenant.

Summary of State party's reply:

- (i) Under article 5(1) of Act No. CXII, personal data may be processed with the individual's consent or legislative order showing necessity and proportionality. Article 5(2) of the Act provides for more safeguards to protect the data subjects' privacy. Under article 6 of the Act, personal data may be processed when: it would be impossible for the individual to consent or impose a disproportionate cost to gain consent; it is necessary to fulfil a legal obligation or enforce a legitimate interest of the data controller or a third party; and that interest outweighs the right to protection of the personal data.
- (ii) If the conditions in articles 5 and 6 are satisfied, the collection and processing of personal data related to the monitoring of the implementation of the Covenant shall be deemed lawful.

Committee's evaluation:

[B1]: The Committee notes the State party's explanations that clarify the relevant content of Act No. CXII of 2011 as well as the safeguards in place to protect personal data, but requires additional information on the impact of the implementation of the Act and examples in which it was possible to collect disaggregated data to monitor and evaluate programmes that have a bearing on the implementation of the Covenant. Please also provide details on the implementation and consequences of the anonymous, uniformed ethnic data collection system.

Paragraph 15**Follow-up question:**

Hungary

[B1]: There is still a need for action in respect of the following points:

- (i) The review of the conditions of detention of aliens, scheduled in autumn 2012;
- (ii) The measures taken under the March 2012 Plan of Action to help the police to improve the conditions of detention of aliens;
- (iii) The countries identified as “safe” by the act on asylum.

[D1]: No information has been provided on the cases of unlawful expulsion of Afghan and Somali asylum seekers.

Summary of State party’s reply:

- (i) Ministerial Decree No. 76/2012 (XII.19) entered into force in January 2013, reflecting revisions to the conditions for detention of aliens. Significant modifications in the legal framework applicable to asylum seekers were introduced in that decree. For instance, asylum applications that have been submitted prior to deportation will ensure that the asylum seeker has a right to remain in the territory without being detained.
- (ii) The State party noted that the March 2012 Plan of Action introduced several changes to improve the conditions for detained aliens – it provides a clearer definition of the rights and duties of detained foreigners, introduced a more precise complaints mechanism and emphasizes the special needs of detainees that should be taken into account during their detention period.
- (iii) Hungary does not have a list of safe third countries.
- (iv) Hungary applies the principle of non-refoulement for Somali asylum seekers in every case where no further international protection was given. For Afghan asylum seekers, Hungary makes determinations on a case-by-case basis taking into account individual circumstances.

Committee’s evaluation:

[B1]: While the Committee notes the passage of the Ministerial Decree No. 76/2012 (XII. 19) and information on the practice of detaining asylum seekers, additional information is required. Please provide:

- (i) A copy of the Ministerial Decree No. 76/2012 (XII. 19);
- (ii) Data on the number of asylum seekers that have been detained since the passage of Act No. XCII as well as the reasons for their detention and length of their internments;
- (iii) Details of the enhanced complaints mechanism formulated under the March 2012 Plan of Action.

Paragraph 18

Follow-up question:

[B2]: Information is required on the following points:

- (i) The training provided for judges, magistrates and prosecutors;
- (ii) The main conclusions of the STEPPS programme concerning the methods and effectiveness of identity checks and the extent to which they affect certain social groups;
- (iii) The number of complaints lodged and decisions taken in respect of “openly antisocial behaviour motivated by a person’s actual or perceived membership of a particular group”.

[D1]: No information is provided on the investigations, prosecution and punishment of

Hungary

members of the Magyar Gárda.

Summary of State party's reply:

(i) The training of judges, court leaders and other judicial employees is undertaken by the Academy of Justice and the National Office for the Judiciary. The Hungarian Training Centre for Prosecutors organizes professional training for prosecutors involved in education and publishes educational and scientific materials.

(ii) Based on the results of the STEPPS programme, it was found that the likelihood of being subjected to an identity check is three times higher for a resident of Roma ethnicity than for a non-Roma citizen. Continuous training for police officers has been undertaken.

(iii) Twenty-three complaints were filed by persons of Roma ethnicity or by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with regard to "antisocial conduct on account of another person's real or perceived belonging to a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group or certain group of the population". Two of them were specifically related to discriminatory actions. In total, 2 complaints were withdrawn, 14 were rejected and 7 are pending.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee notes the results obtained from the STEPPS programme, however additional information is required on:

(i) The number of training sessions conducted in 2013 and 2014 for judges, magistrates, prosecutors and all law enforcement officials on discrimination, including hate and racially motivated crimes;

(ii) The impact of the training for police on conflict management and mediation techniques;

(iii) The methodological guide for conflict management options and protocols during police interventions, developed as a result of the STEPPS programme;

(iv) The outcome of the seven pending complaints filed by persons of Roma ethnicity or by NGOs with regard to "antisocial conduct on account of another person's real or perceived belonging to a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group or certain group of the population".

[D1]: No information was provided on the investigations, prosecution and punishment of members of the Magyar Gárda. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent informing the State party of the discontinuation of the follow-up procedure. The information requested should be provided by the State party in its next periodic report, which is due on 29 October 2014.

Next periodic report: 29 October 2014

101st session (March and April 2011)

Togo

Concluding observations: CCPR/C/TGO/CO/4, 28 March 2011

Follow-up paragraphs: 10, 15, 16

First reply: Due 28 March 2012; received 17 April 2012

Togo

Committee's evaluation: Additional information required on paragraphs 10, 15 and 16

Second reply: October 2012

Committee's evaluation: Additional information required on paragraphs 10 [B2], 15 [B2] and 16 [B1].

Third reply: Reply to the Committee's letters of 2 December 2013 and 28 April 2014; received 22 May 2014

Paragraph 10

Follow-up question:

[B2]: Information is required on the decisions taken in respect of the human rights violations committed in 2005 and on their implementation.

Summary of State party's reply:

Following the recommendations of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission, the Government adopted Decree No. 2014-104/PR on 24 April 2014. The High Commission for Reconciliation and Reinforcement of National Unity was created in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: The Committee notes that no information was provided on the conduct of independent and impartial investigation and the prosecution of those responsible, as requested by the Committee. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

Paragraph 15

Follow-up question:

[B2]: Additional information is still required on:

- (i) The content of the provisions of the Criminal Code relating to torture;
- (ii) The progress made towards the adoption of the bills by the Government.

Summary of State party's reply:

The State party states that amendments to the Penal Code are currently at the National Assembly level for review and adoption.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: The Committee notes that the State party has not provided information on the content of the provisions of the Criminal Code relating to torture, as requested by the Committee.

[B2]: Additional information is required on the progress towards the adoption of the bills by the Government.

Paragraph 16

Follow-up question:

[B1]: Additional information will be required when measures have been adopted to continue the implementation of the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission.

Togo

Summary of State party's reply:

The Government has undertaken a series of 13 reforms to the National Intelligence Agency (ANR) in response to the National Human Rights Commission's report and has paid victims CFA 532 million in accordance with a judgment delivered by the Economic Community of West African States Community Court of Justice.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee requests further information on:

- (a) The specific reforms to the ANR which the State party has undertaken and the dates of such reforms;
- (b) The current status of the delivery of victims' compensation;
- (c) Whether impartial and independent criminal investigations have begun on alleged cases of torture.

Recommended action:

A letter should be sent informing the State party of the discontinuation of the follow-up procedure. The information requested should be provided by the State party in its next periodic report, which is due on 1 April 2015.

Next periodic report: 1 April 2015

102nd session (July 2011)

Bulgaria

Concluding observations:	CCPR/C/BGR/CO/3, 25 July 2011
Follow-up paragraphs:	8, 11, 21
First reply:	Due 19 August 2012; received 31 January 2013
Committee's evaluation:	Additional information required on paragraphs 8 [B2], 11 [B1] and 21 [C1]
Second reply:	Reply to the Committee's letter of 2 December 2013; received 17 January 2014

Paragraph 8**Follow-up question:**

[B2]: While the report indicates local measures to implement the Committee's recommendation, including training organized for police officers, additional information should be requested on:

- (a) Information and data on investigations, the prosecution of perpetrators and the adoption of provisions for effective protection and remedies to the victims;
 - (b) Data on the incidence of all forms of harassment by the police and ill-treatment during police investigations;
 - (c) Measures taken to create an oversight mechanism on prosecution and convictions in the case of complaints against criminal conduct by members of the police.
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Bulgaria

Summary of State party's reply:

- (a) The State party repeated the information provided in their periodic report.
- (b) In 2012, 63 cases were monitored for offences related to manifestations of police brutality. Of those, 21 were terminated in pretrial proceedings, 8 people were brought to court and 5 people were convicted, although no convictions came into effect. In the first half of 2013, 41 cases were monitored for offences related to manifestations of police brutality. Of those, nine were terminated in pretrial proceedings, seven people were brought to court, and eight people were convicted – six of those convictions became effective.
- (c) The State party repeated the information provided in the periodic report.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee appreciates the data for 2012 and 2013 regarding the cases of police brutality that were brought to the attention of the State, but regrets that the State party did not provide a complete response to the questions asked by the Committee. Additional information is required on:

- (a) The reason for which no convictions came into effect in 2012 and why only six of eight convictions came into effect in 2013, as well as the specific crimes for which these cases were brought to the State;
- (b) Please report on the composition, mandate and functions of the Inspectorate Directorate and specific measures undertaken by the Inspectorate Directorate since its inception;
- (c) If the State party envisages the establishment of an independent oversight mechanism on prosecution and convictions in the case of complaints against criminal conduct by members of the police.

Paragraph 11**Follow-up question:**

[B1]: Positive measures were taken by the State party. A copy of the Act on Amendments to the Ministry of Interior Act, in force since 1 July 2012, should be requested to assess its compliance with international standards on the use of lethal force and article 6 of the Covenant.

Summary of State party's reply:

Articles 72–74 were amended so that the use of physical force and restraint by police authorities would only be applied when absolutely necessary.

Committee's evaluation:

[B1]: While the Committee commends Bulgaria for taking the initial steps towards complying with the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, additional information is required. Please provide information of the specific articles in the Ministry of Interior Act that address general principle 6 in the Basic Principles concerning instances of injury or death caused by the use of force and firearms by law enforcement.

Bulgaria

Paragraph 21**Follow-up question:**

[C1]: No measures have been adopted and the Committee reiterates its recommendation. Additional information should be provided by the State party on its progress in ensuring the principle of independence of the judiciary is fully respected, in particular information on whether the State party has conducted any awareness-raising activities on the key values of an independent judiciary aimed at judicial authorities, law enforcement officials and/or for the population at large.

Summary of State party's reply:

On 3 July 2012, amendments and supplements to the Judiciary System Act were promulgated that introduced rules ensuring public participation in the election of the members of the Supreme Judicial Council. A draft bill is currently being drawn up by the Ministry of Justice to amend and supplement the Judiciary System Act. That bill relates to the introduction of an e-justice system; the status of Supreme Judicial Council members; the creation of a "reasonable workload" for judicial system employees; administrative heads; appraisal of judges, prosecutors and investigators; disciplinary proceedings, etc.

A task force for identifying conflicting case law was established under the Supreme Court of Cassation Chairperson to create a coherent judicial practice. The Inspectorate of the Supreme Judicial Council also works towards establishing uniform law enforcement practices.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee welcomes the measures taken on behalf of the State party in promulgating new rules regarding public participation in the election of Supreme Judicial Council members, as well as the draft bill. However, additional information is required on:

- (a) The expected date of when the draft bill will be proposed and if any progress has been made in that respect;
- (b) Awareness-raising activities conducted by the State party on the key values of an independent judiciary aimed at judicial authorities, law enforcement officials and/or the population at large.

Recommended action: Letter reflecting the Committee's analysis.

Next periodic report: 29 July 2015

104th session (March 2012)

Turkmenistan

Concluding observations:	CCPR/C/TKM/CO/1, 28 March 2012
Follow-up paragraphs:	9, 13, 18
First reply:	Due 29 March 2013; received 31 August 2012
Committee's evaluation:	Additional information required on paragraphs 9 [C2][C2][C2], 13 [C2] and 18 [C1]
Second reply:	Reply to the Committee's letter of 2 December 2013;

Turkmenistan

received 6 February 2014

Paragraph 9

Follow-up question:

[C2]: (a) There has been no revision of the Criminal Code to incorporate a definition of torture.

[C2]: (b) No measures appear to have been taken since March 2012 to establish an independent oversight body to carry out independent inspections and investigations in all places of detention. While the State party refers to the existence of monitoring and supervisory commissions, no details on the composition, mandate and independence of supervisory commissions have been provided. Furthermore, those commissions appear to have been set up in 2010, i.e., before the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations, and thus their establishment cannot be viewed as a measure implementing the Committee's recommendation to establish an independent oversight body.

(c) Most of the training activities outlined by the State party were conducted before the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations and thus are not relevant. The few other training activities that were envisaged for June and July 2012 do not relate to prevention of torture and ill-treatment. There is no information indicating that the 1999 Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol) has been integrated into all training programmes for law enforcement officials, as recommended by the Committee. No effective measures to enhance efforts to investigate and punish torture and ill-treatment appear to have been taken by the State party. The report lacks statistical information on the number of reported cases of torture and ill-treatment, the investigations and prosecutions initiated, the number of actual criminal convictions, sentences imposed and remedies granted to victims. The Committee therefore reiterates its recommendations.

[C2]: (d) Although the report refers to a few visits undertaken by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), that organization has not been granted unhindered access to all places of detention. Additional information should be requested on practical measures taken to allow visits by recognized international humanitarian organizations to all places of detention.

Summary of State party's reply:

The Penalties Enforcement Code, which regulates legal relations in the country's prison system, was adopted on 25 March 2011. Oversight commissions were set up to monitor prisons (Presidential Decision, 31 March 2010).

Article 182-1 of the amended Criminal Code, which took effect on 4 August 2012, defines and criminalizes acts of torture.

NGO information: Joint Submission from Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights and International Partnership for Human Rights

(a) A new definition of torture has been incorporated into the Criminal Code, but comprehensive and effective measures are needed to give effect to that provision in practice.

(b) There has been no progress.

(c) There has been no progress.

(d) The authorities have arranged ICRC visits to selected detention sites, but ICRC and other organizations have not been given unhindered access to all places of detention.

Turkmenistan

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: With regard to subparagraph (a), the Committee notes that the State party has updated its Criminal Code to incorporate the crime of torture. The Committee requests further information on the implementation of article 182-1 in accordance with the State party's obligations.

[C2]: With regard to subparagraphs (b) and (c) the State party has not provided new information. The Committee reiterates its recommendations.

[C2]: With regard to subparagraph (d), the State party has not provided new information. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

Paragraph 13**Follow-up question:**

[C2]: The State party has limited itself to statements that its judiciary is independent and provided no information on the measures taken to implement the Committee's recommendations. The Committee therefore reiterates them.

Summary of State party's reply:

No information was provided on the issue.

NGO information: Joint Submission from Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights and International Partnership for Human Rights

There are no indications that the State party has made systematic efforts to investigate corruption and bring its perpetrators to justice.

Committee's evaluation:

[D2]: The State party did not provide a response to the issue. The Committee reiterates its recommendations.

Paragraph 18**Follow-up question:**

[C1]: The State party reply does not respond to the concerns raised by the Committee nor provide information on the implementation of its recommendations. While the drafting of a media bill is a positive development, no information is provided on the measures taken to ensure that:

- (a) Journalists, human rights defenders and individuals are able to freely exercise their right to freedom of expression;
- (b) International human rights organizations are allowed access into the country;
- (c) Individuals have access to websites and use the Internet without undue restrictions;
- (d) Any restriction on the exercise of freedom of expression fully complies with the strict requirements of article 19, paragraph 3, of the Covenant. Therefore, the Committee reiterates its recommendations.

Summary of State party's reply:

On 22 December 2012, the State party adopted the Media Act, which governs the dissemination of information to the public and defines the rights, duties and responsibilities of organizations involved in the preparation and dissemination of information, as well as journalists and bodies that regulate their activities.

Turkmenistan

Presidential Decision No. 12,892 (6 March 2013) covered rules on the designation of owners of newspapers and magazines published in the State party.

NGO information: Joint Submission from Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights and International Partnership for Human Rights

The Government maintains a monopoly on information with the help of State-controlled media. Less than 10 per cent of the country has access to the Internet, partially because the costs of Internet access are prohibitively expensive. Internet activity is subject to censorship and monitoring.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: Measures remain necessary to protect and promote freedom of opinion and expression. The Committee requests further information on:

- (a) The implementation of the Media Act of 22 December 2012 and efforts to promote and respect the rights to freedom of expression and opinion through an independent media;
- (b) Measures taken to increase access to the Internet and ensure that this access is not restricted;
- (c) Measures taken to allow international human rights organizations access into the State party;
- (d) Rules on the ownership of newspapers and magazines and whether these rules are in conformity with the Covenant;
- (e) Efforts to protect and promote the preparation and dissemination of information, free from the risk of intimidation and harassment.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent informing the State party of the discontinuation of the follow-up procedure. The information requested should be provided by the State party in its next periodic report, which is due on 30 March 2015.

Next periodic report: 30 March 2015

Guatemala

Concluding observations:	CCPR/C/GTM/CO/3, 28 March 2012
Follow-up paragraphs:	7, 21, 22
First reply:	Due 19 April 2013; received 20 June 2013
Committee's evaluation:	Additional information required on paragraphs 7 [B2], 21 [C1] and 22 [D1][B2][C2]
Second reply:	Reply to the Committee's letter of 2 December 2013; received 10 April 2014

Paragraph 7

Follow-up question:

[B2]: While the report indicates measures to implement the Committee's recommendation, additional information should be requested on:

- (a) The implementation of reparation measures with a focus on restoration of dignity, psychosocial support, rehabilitation and recovery of historical memory;
 - (b) The number of compensation claims filed in 2012;
 - (c) The remedies provided for victims in 2012, disaggregated by type of reparation measures.
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Guatemala

Summary of State party's reply:

- (a) The State party reiterated that the National Policy on Reparation 2012–2013 implemented by the National Reparations Programme (PNR) aims to fully compensate victims of the internal armed conflict by providing comprehensive reparations focused on restoring the dignity of victims. The restoration of the victims' dignity is achieved by the dissemination of the victims' historical memory, which is implemented through memorials, acts of collective remembrance, personal identification, acts of restoring dignity, and exhumations and burials.
- (b) In 2012, the PNR registered 269 cases in its database, in addition to the more than 53,000 cases registered between 2005 and 2011.
- (c) The State party provided information on remedies provided for victims, disaggregated by type of reparation measures.

NGO information: CCPR Centre

The PNR has not adopted a systematic and comprehensive reparations policy. The State party has not established mechanisms for coordination and partnerships with sectors specializing in reparations measures, as recommended by the Committee.

The governmental agreement establishes that the PNR should have a budget of not less than 300 million quetzals per year. However, the annual budget has always been less than that amount.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee notes the reparations granted during 2012, in particular the reparation measures with a focus on restoration of dignity, psychosocial support, rehabilitation and recovery of historical memory, but requires information on:

- (a) The cases registered in the PNR database, including reparations granted in those cases;
- (b) The number of compensation claims filed in 2013 and the remedies provided for victims during that year, disaggregated by type of reparation measure;
- (c) The administrative procedures that impeded the building of houses in 2012 and whether new houses were built in 2013 within the framework of the reparation programme;
- (d) The total budget allocated to the PNR in 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Paragraph 21**Follow-up question:**

[C1]: Additional measures remain necessary to adopt the draft act No. 3,590 on the establishment of a national commission to investigate the whereabouts of disappeared persons. The Committee requests the State party to provide additional information as soon as possible once such measures are being adopted.

Summary of State party's reply:

The State party stated that the adoption of bill 3,590 depends on the Congress.

NGO information: CCPR Centre

Guatemala

The draft act No. 3590 was not yet adopted. It is expected that draft will be adopted in the current legislation period.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: Additional measures remain necessary to adopt the draft act No. 3590. The recommendation has therefore not been implemented and information remains necessary.

Paragraph 22

Follow-up question:

[D1]: In relation to the request to publicly acknowledge the contribution of human rights defenders to justice and democracy, no information was provided on whether the State party intends to do so. The recommendation has therefore not been implemented and information remains necessary.

[B2]: Concerning the effective protection for human rights defenders, additional information should be requested on:

- (a) Investigations, the prosecution of perpetrators and the adoption of provisions for effective protection and remedies to the defenders;
- (b) Measures taken to strengthen the measures for protection of human rights defenders;
- (c) Measures taken to encourage the presentation of claims before the national protective mechanism by human rights defenders.

[C2]: Concerning the Office for Analysis of Attacks on Human Rights Defenders, the State party does not provide information on:

- (a) Human and material resources provided for the Office;
- (b) Its efforts to ensure the participation at the highest level of State institutions with decision-making power.

The recommendation has therefore not been implemented and information remains necessary.

Summary of State party's reply:

Concerning the effective protection for human rights defenders:

- (a) The State party provided statistical information on investigations and the prosecution of perpetrators. The Investigation Unit on Attacks on Human Rights Defenders of the National Police will be strengthened with 20 agents this year.
- (b) The Human Rights Unit of the Ministry of Interior provides security staff as a preventive measure to human rights defenders at risk. That measure is subjected to periodic risk assessments and adapted to the need of the beneficiaries.
- (c) One of the measures that have encouraged the submission of claims by human rights defenders is the prompt institutional response to provide protection to human rights defenders.

Concerning the Office for Analysis of Attacks on Human Rights Defenders:

- (a) Agreement 9-2012 on the creation of the Office for Analysis of Attacks on Human Rights Defenders provides that given the nature of the Office, it is not necessary to allocate funds for the institution. Each institution that makes up the Office provides human and material resources to the Office.
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Guatemala

(b) Agreement 9-2012 provides that members of the Office are of high hierarchical level and have necessary powers to promote the actions needed for their functions.

NGO information: CCPR Centre

The State party has not made efforts to acknowledge the contribution of human rights defenders. The State party has not provided sufficient protective measures to human rights defenders, which has led to a higher number of attacks in the present year. According to UDEFEGUA, 2014 has been the most violent year for the human rights defenders.

The Unit for the Analysis of Attacks against Human Rights Defenders functions in an irregular manner because of the changes in its state delegates.

Committee's evaluation:

[D1]: In relation to the request to publicly acknowledge the contribution of human rights defenders to justice and democracy, once again, no information was provided on whether the State party intends to do so. The recommendation has therefore not been implemented and information remains necessary.

[C1]: Concerning the effective protection for human rights defenders, please comment on reports that 2014 has been the most violent year for human rights defenders and measures taken to address the increase number of attacks against them. Please provide information on action taken to strengthen the measures for protection of human rights defenders and provide statistics of measures for protection granted in the last three years, including in 2014.

[B2]: Please provide information on measures taken to strengthen and support the immediate, effective and impartial investigation of threats, attacks and assassinations of human rights defenders, and to prosecute and punish the perpetrators.

[C1]: Concerning the Office for Analysis of Attacks on Human Rights Defenders, additional information is required on the replacement of representatives of the institutions participating in the Unit. Please comment on reports that these changes have affected its functions.

Recommended action: Letter reflecting the Committee's analysis.

Next periodic report: 30 March 2016

106th session (October and November 2012)

Portugal

Concluding observations:	CCPR/C/PRT/CO/4, 31 October 2012
Follow-up paragraphs:	9, 11, 12
First reply:	Due 31 October 2013; received 8 April 2014

Paragraph 9

Summary of State party's reply:

Within the Portuguese prison system there are prison facilities and special detention units for pretrial detainees. There has been a significant decrease in the imprisonment rate in Portugal due to the legislative amendment introduced in the Criminal Procedural Code which increased the scope of application of measures alternative to imprisonment. A plan

Portugal

to promote the use of measures alternative to imprisonment has been developed, providing for awareness-raising and training of relevant actors. Recently adopted national plans on the rehabilitation of offenders also play a role in that regard.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: Additional information is required on the legislative amendment introduced in the Criminal Procedural Code which increased the scope of application of measures alternative to imprisonment and on measures taken to reduce the length of investigations and legal procedures, improve judicial efficiency and address staff shortages. In addition, statistical data should be requested on:

- (a) The average length of pretrial detention in the last three years, disaggregated on the basis of gender and grounds for detention;
- (b) The number of individuals held in pretrial detention in the last three years.

Paragraph 11**Summary of State party's reply:**

Concerning the overcrowding in prisons, the Ministry of Justice adopted an investment plan aimed at the upgrading and extension of prison facilities. Regarding the availability of drugs and the high rate of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C in correctional institutions, the State party states that the Code on the Execution of Penalties guarantees medical assistance and the provision of medicines to all inmates, in similar conditions to any other citizen. The State party referred to the Specific Exchange Syringe Programme, which was established to decrease the incidence of infectious diseases, namely HIV/AIDS and hepatitis B and C.

In relation to the strip-searching regime, the State party stated that strip searches are a security and preventive measure aiming at maintaining order and discipline in prison facilities.

The awareness of facts that may constitute a crime, namely torture, always gives rise to a criminal investigation, conducted or supervised by the Public Prosecution. The use of electric weapons and devices to solve disciplinary problems in prisons was prohibited by the Minister of Justice, and the use of any such devices must be fully registered.

The Ombudsman undertook a general inspection of all prisons in February and March 2013 and is carrying out inspection visits to places of detention of different police forces. Furthermore, representatives of sovereign bodies and of international organizations dealing with the rights of inmates can have access to prison facilities.

Committee's evaluation:

[B1]: Regarding the overcrowding in prisons, the Committee takes note of the investment plan aimed at the upgrading and extension of prison facilities, but requires updated information on its progress and on the creation of new places in prisons.

[B2]: Additional information is requested on measures taken, after the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations on 31 October 2012, to increase the availability of drugs and to address the high rate of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C in correctional institutions.

[B1]: Concerning physical ill-treatment and other forms of abuse, additional information is required on the monitoring visits carried out by the Ombudsman in February and March 2013 and measures taken to address the deficiencies identified.

Portugal

Paragraph 12

Summary of State party's reply:

In February 2013, further legal amendments were introduced in order to extend the concept of domestic violence to dating and other intimate relationships without cohabitation. A number of provisions have been introduced to regulate aspects covered by the Act on the prevention of domestic violence and on the protection of and assistance to its victims, adopted in September 2009. The IV National Plan against Domestic Violence 2011–2013 consolidated the strategies of previous national plans of giving visibility to the phenomenon of domestic violence and integrating new measures for effective response and support to the victims. The V National Plan 2014–2017, adopted in December 2013, enlarges its scope of action as it also includes gender-based violence.

Concerning the prevention and investigation of crimes of domestic violence, the State party states that there are special teams to investigate crimes of domestic violence, to undertake preventive action and to deal with victims in police stations. Specific training sessions have been provided to, inter alia, social workers, public prosecutors, security forces, teachers and medical staff.

On rehabilitation of victims, the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training implemented a measure aiming to support victims of domestic violence in becoming financially independent. Concerning provision of shelter and facilitation of victims' access to housing, in August 2012 a protocol was signed by the Government and the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities with a view to providing low-cost housing to victims of domestic violence upon leaving the shelter.

Committee's evaluation:

[A]: On the need to combat and prevent domestic violence, the Committee takes note of the legal amendments introduced in February 2013 in order to extend the concept of domestic violence and to regulate aspects on the prevention of domestic violence and on the protection of and assistance to victims, but requires additional information on the impact of such amendments. The Committee also requires a copy of the legal amendments adopted after 31 October 2012.

[A]: Concerning the National Action Plan against domestic violence and the measures taken to ensure that victims have effective access to complaint mechanisms, the Committee takes note of the adoption of the V National plan against Domestic and Gender-Based Violence 2014–2017, but requires updated information on its impact, in particular concerning measures taken to ensure that victims have effective access to complaints mechanisms. In addition, the Committee requests clarification of the decrease in the number of complaints presented to police forces, which amounted to 31,235 complaints in 2010 and decreased to 27,318 in 2013.

[A]: Concerning the rehabilitation of victims, the Committee notes the protocol signed in August 2012 by the Government and the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities to provide low-cost housing to victims of domestic violence upon leaving the shelter, but requires information on the implementation of the protocol. The Committee also takes note of the initiative of the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training to support victims of domestic violence in becoming financially independent, but requires information on the sustainability of the project and if the State party intends to continue with the initiative.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 31 October 2018

Turkey

Concluding observations: CCPR/C/TUR/CO/1, 30 October 2012

Follow-up paragraphs: 10, 13, 23

First reply: Due 31 October 2013; received 22 July 2014

Paragraph 10**Summary of State party's reply:**

The State party referred to its Constitution, Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure on the issue of equality of all individuals without discrimination. Social stigmatization and exclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons are not tolerated, and all potential hate crimes are investigated.

Committee's evaluation:

[C2]: The State party has not implemented the Committee's recommendation. Additional information is required on:

- (a) Measures taken to state clearly and officially that the State does not tolerate any form of stigmatization of homosexuality, bisexuality or transsexuality or harassment of or discrimination or violence against persons because of their sexual orientation or gender identity;
- (b) The investigation and prosecution of potential discrimination or violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in 2013 and 2014;
- (c) Awareness-raising activities conducted by the State party to promote tolerance and respect for diversity.

Paragraph 13**Summary of State party's reply:**

The Turkish Penal Code abolished the de facto reduction of sentences for "honour killing" perpetrators in 2005. Criminal acts carried out as a result of "custom or honour motive" cannot properly be considered "unjust provocation" for the purpose of reducing criminal liability.

Committee's evaluation:

[C2]: With regard to amendments to the Penal Code, the State party has repeated its original response and has not provided information on amendments to article 82 of the Penal Code. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

[C2]: Information is required on the investigations and sanctions of "honour killings". Please provide statistical data on the sentences imposed on perpetrators in the last three years, specifying if de facto reduction of sentences was applied.

[D1]: No information was received on measures taken to disseminate information on the gravity of "honour killings". The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

Paragraph 23**Summary of State party's reply:**

The State party quoted the law regarding compulsory military service and indicated that there are no plans to introduce a civilian alternative to compulsory military service.

NGO Information: International Fellowship of Reconciliation

Turkey

Progress toward legislation to recognize or exempt conscientious objection has stalled or has possibly even moved backward. Judicial proceedings against conscientious objectors have continued, new proceedings have been initiated, and prior sentences have not been suspended. The punishment now tends to be a fine rather than detention, although the threat of detention still remains.

Committee's evaluation:

[E]: The State party's reply indicates that there are no plans to introduce a civilian alternative to compulsory military service. The Committee's recommendation has not been implemented and the Committee reiterates its recommendation.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 31 October 2018

107th session (March 2013)

Paraguay

Concluding observations: CCPR/C/PRY/CO/3, 26 March 2013

Follow-up paragraphs: 8, 14, 23

First reply: Due 26 March 2014; received 30 May 2014

Paragraph 8

Summary of State party's reply:

The institution in charge of compensation for victims of human rights violations is currently working on criteria for granting compensation. The Attorney General's Office has adopted resolution No. 234/2013, which establishes an internal deadline for the issuance of decisions on compensation claims.

The judiciary, through the Human Rights Directorate of the Supreme Court of Justice, has asked the competent judicial bodies for updated information on judicial cases opened before 2013 concerning human rights violations which occurred during the dictatorship.

In February 2014, the Criminal Trial Court No. 5 began searching for victims of enforced disappearance in the framework of the case *Sabino Augusto Montanaro and others*.

ENABI, the National Team for the Investigation, Search and Identification of Detained or Disappeared Persons and Victims of Extrajudicial Executions in Paraguay, was established by Act No. 7.101/11 and modified by Act 10.970 in April 2013. To date, ENABI has no budget available. The Office of the Ombudsman and, since 2011, ENABI have conducted excavations and exhumations. Additional excavations and exhumations are planned to be conducted.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: Concerning the need to ensure that all cases of serious human rights violations documented by the Truth and Justice Commission are investigated, additional information should be requested on:

(a) The progress of judicial cases concerning human rights violations which occurred during the dictatorship;

(b) The actions taken by the Human Rights Directorate of the Supreme Court of

Paraguay

Justice after having received the updated information on judicial cases opened before 2013, as referred in the State party's follow-up report.

[B2]: Concerning reparation and compensation provided to victims, additional information is required on:

- (a) The new criteria for granting compensation established by the Attorney General's Office;
- (b) The internal deadline for the issuance of decisions on compensation claims established in resolution No. 234/2013.

[C1]: Concerning the resources needed to continue the search for and identification of human remains in the context of investigations into enforced disappearances, additional information should be requested on the allocation of funds to ENABI and the Office of the Ombudsman (Dirección de Verdad, Justicia y Reparación de la Defensoría del Pueblo).

Paragraph 14

Summary of State party's reply:

The committees are autonomous and do not carry out the exclusive functions of the National Police or of the Public Prosecutor.

Committee's evaluation:

[C2]: No new measures appear to have been taken since the examination of the State party's report. The recommendation has not been implemented and actions remain necessary.

Paragraph 23

Summary of State party's reply:

A criminal proceeding was launched in respect of the police raid in Curuguaty. The proceedings were dismissed for some of the accused and, for the remainder of the accused, the proceedings are currently at the oral and public trial stage.

On 20 December 2013, the court granted alternative measures to a juvenile accused in respect of events during the police raid in Curuguaty on 15 June 2012. The juvenile was released under the obligation to periodically report to the Court.

Between February and April of 2014 some of the accused went on a hunger strike to request the replacement of their preventive detention with house arrest. On 12 April 2014, their request was granted and the court ordered the replacement of the preventive detention with house arrest.

An investigation (No. 46/12) was opened to investigate incidents of torture which allegedly occurred on 15 June 2012.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee takes note of the criminal proceeding launched in respect of the police raid in Curuguaty, but requests additional information on the progress of investigations and criminal proceedings. Additional information is also required in respect of the two heavily pregnant women held in pretrial detention.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 30 March 2017

Hong Kong, China

Concluding observations: CCPR/C/CHN-HKG/CO/3, 26 March 2013

Follow-up paragraphs: 6, 21, 22

First reply: Due 26 March 2014; received 25 March 2014

Paragraph 6

Summary of State party's reply:

Submission of 25 March 2014: China, the Government of Hong Kong, China and the people of Hong Kong, China aspire to implement universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017 subject to the Basic Law of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Standing Committee (NPCSC). An extensive public consultation has been carried out since 4 December 2013 on the selection methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and for electing the Legislative Council in 2016. Those exercises will continue until 3 May 2014.

Submission of 15 October 2014: During the consultation period, members of the Task Force on Constitutional Development and relevant politically appointed officials attended 226 consultation and district events. A total of about 124,700 submissions in writing from different groups and individuals were received. In addition, various events and forums were organized.

The NPCSC decided that, starting from the 2017, the selection of the Chief Executive may be implemented by the method of universal suffrage. The NPCSC decision also sets out a clear framework on the specific method for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage in accordance with the Basic Law. The NPCSC also decided that no amendment is required to be made to annex II to the Basic Law regarding the method for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. The NPCSC decision is consistent with the Basic Law, appropriate to the actual situation in Hong Kong, China, conducive to upholding the sovereignty, security and development interests of the country and maintaining the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, China.

As views within the community concerning the detailed design of the method for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage are still divergent, the Government of Hong Kong, China will continue its best efforts to forge consensus within the community so as to realize the implementation of universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017.

NGO information: Hong Kong Bar Association (HKBA) and Human Rights Watch (HRW):

HKBA: The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Hong Kong, China appear to be taking the position that electoral reform to institute universal suffrage must only comply with the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the NPCSC. There has been no consideration of steps that will lead to the withdrawal of the reservation to article 25 (b).

HRW: On 31 August, the NPCSC handed down its decision: while it allows all eligible voters in Hong Kong, China to cast ballots for the territory's Chief Executive, it will impose a stringent screening mechanism that effectively bars candidates whom the Central Government in Beijing dislikes from nomination for Chief Executive. Limitations on who may run for office that are based on political opinion, expressions, memberships or allegiance are incompatible with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Hong Kong, China

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: The Committee notes the public consultation carried out by the State party on the selection methods for the Chief Executive in 2017 and on the election of the Legislative Council in 2016. The Committee also notes the decision of 31 August 2014 of the NPCSC. The Committee requires additional information on the specific method for selecting the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council by universal suffrage, which includes the right to vote and the right to stand for election, and its compatibility with the Covenant. The Committee also requires information on measures taken to withdraw the reservation to article 25 (b) of the Covenant.

Paragraph 21

Summary of State party's reply:

The State party reports that foreign domestic helpers enjoy equal and full protection and entitlements under the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57). Foreign domestic helpers also have full access to the Labour Department's free services, including a consultation and conciliation service to resolve employer disputes. If no settlement can be reached by conciliation, the cases are referred to the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board or the Labour Tribunal for adjudication.

The purpose of the "two-week rule" is to allow time for foreign domestic helpers to prepare for their departure and is an important means of effective immigration control. The "live-in requirement" is necessary to fill the shortfall of local live-in domestic workers in Hong Kong, China.

NGO information: Hong Kong Bar Association (HKBA)

HKBA notes that recent newspaper reports of criminal complaints by foreign domestic helpers of alleged employer abuse and of criminal prosecutions, convictions and imprisonment of employers have been published. The government of Hong Kong, China does not show a real intention of repealing the "two-week rule" or the "live-in requirement" from the immigration policy applicable to foreign domestic helpers.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: While the Committee notes the information the State party provided on the protection and entitlements provided for foreign domestic workers, additional information is required on:

- (a) Data on the incidence of all forms of alleged employer abuse and of criminal prosecutions, convictions and imprisonment of employers;
- (b) Accessible and effective mechanisms in place to ensure accountability of employer abuse;
- (c) If the State party envisages repealing the "live-in requirement".

Paragraph 22

Summary of State party's reply:

Starting in the 2014/15 school year, the government of Hong Kong, China will allocate HK\$200 million per year to support non-Chinese-speaking students to facilitate effective learning of the Chinese language. The funding will go towards programmes like a "Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework" for non-Chinese-speaking primary and secondary students.

Non-Chinese-speaking parents are encouraged to allow their children to learn Chinese at

Hong Kong, China

the pre-primary stage.

NGO information: Hong Kong Bar Association (HKBA)

Thus far, the government of Hong Kong, China has not implemented a Chinese as a second language curriculum to assist non-Chinese-speaking students to master the language in according to their pace. The enhanced funding has not resulted in desegregation of schools.

NGO information: Hong Kong Unison Limited

There is de facto racial segregation in the public education system. The government has not provided sufficient information to ethnic minority parents to assist them in making informed choices of where to send their children to school.

The “Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework” that is to be launched in 2014/15 does not have concrete policy goals, implementation objectives/timetables, assessment or monitoring mechanisms, or measures to ensure transparency.

Committee’s evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee notes the additional funding allocated for the 2014/15 school year to support non-Chinese-speaking students in learning the Chinese language; however, additional information is required on measures taken to integrate ethnic minorities into the public education system, in particular, the concrete policy goals, implementation objectives/timetables, monitoring mechanisms and measures to ensure transparency that will be used in implementing the “Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework” programme.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 30 March 2018

Macao, China

Concluding observations: CCPR/C/CHN-MAC/CO/1, 27 March 2013

Follow-up paragraphs: 7, 11, 17

First reply: Due 27 March 2014; received 5 April 2014

Paragraph 7

Summary of State party’s reply:

The State party stated that the Committee’s recommendation to withdraw its reservation to article 25 (b) does not comply with the State party’s current political system.

NGO information: New Macao Association

As of 10 December 2013, the State party has not started any public consultation on amending the political system.

Committee’s evaluation:

[C1]: The recommendation has not been implemented. The Committee reiterates it.

Paragraph 11

Macao, China

Summary of State party's reply:

The Working Group of Regional Legal Assistance and International Mutual Legal Assistance of the government of Macao, China have conducted negotiations with mainland China on the arrangement of legal assistance in criminal cases, and they will continue to conduct those negotiations. Those future negotiations will include arrangements for the surrender of fugitives.

Committee's evaluation:

[C1]: The State party has not provided specific information on the current stand and results of the negotiations it has already conducted with mainland China on the arrangement of legal assistance in criminal cases. The recommendation has not been implemented. The Committee requests further information on the negotiations between the State party and mainland China on the transfer of offenders.

Paragraph 17

Summary of State party's reply:

With regard to fees levied by employment agencies, the State party states that the Decree-Law No. 32/94/M enjoins employment agencies from charging fees to non-resident workers other than accommodation fees. Violations of that law may result in a fine to the employer.

The State party argues that the basic legal protections offered to local workers is the same as the protections offered to non-resident workers. With regard to dismissal without just cause, the State party states that employers must pay dismissal compensation and give prior notice, regardless of whether the worker is local or non-resident. A violation of that provision may result in a fine to the employer. Punishment may also result in imprisonment.

The State party states that the Labour Affairs Bureau handles complaints from non-resident workers as well as local workers.

NGO information: New Macao Association

Migrant workers, especially those from mainland China, have to pay a certain percentage of their wages to their respective employment agency every month. The NGO fears that it is unforeseeable to be able to free mainland Chinese migrant workers from systematic exploitation.

The State party has not been active in providing legal advice to employers and migrant workers.

Committee's evaluation:

[B2]: The Committee requests additional information on the following:

- (a) Whether and how the State party provides free or affordable legal advice to non-resident workers and employers advising them of applicable rights, obligations and protections;
 - (b) Statistical information on the incidence of labour law violations committed against non-resident workers, particularly with respect to the absence of formal contracts, excessive fees requested by recruitment agencies and the payment of lower wages to local workers, and the investigation and pursuance thereof by the State party;
 - (c) Statistical information on complaints filed by non-resident workers with the Labour Affairs Bureau, and subsequent actions taken by the Bureau or other governmental
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Macao, China

agencies;

(d) The regulation of employment agencies and measures taken by the State party to ensure that those employment agencies do not exploit non-resident workers.

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 30 March 2018

Angola

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

Follow-up paragraphs: 7, 10, 23

First reply: Due 27 March 2014; received 24 June 2014

Paragraph 7

Summary of State party's reply:

The State party referred to article 192 of the Constitution and Act No. 4/06 (Law on the Ombudsman) and explained the functioning of the Office of the Ombudsman.

During the international seminar on national human rights institutions, which took place in October 2013, it was concluded that the Office partially complies with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles). The Ombudsman cannot intervene in conflicts between individuals or private entities, hindering full compliance with the Paris Principles.

Committee's evaluation:

[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.

Paragraph 10

Summary of State party's reply:

The State party has approved the following legislative measures:

- An executive plan to fight domestic violence and a corresponding action plan;
- A presidential decree that regulates the law against domestic violence;
- A national policy on equality between men and women.

The Ministry of Family and Women's Protection created an integrated system on indicators of equality between men and women. It also coordinates a campaign called UNITE to put an end to violence against women and girls, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund .

A study, coordinated by the Ministry of Family and Women's Protection and other ministries, is currently being carried out to identify and examine the cultural, religious and social factors that favour violence against women.

To ensure thorough investigation into cases of domestic violence, a department on domestic violence was created within the National Directorate of Criminal Investigation. The State party also provided statistical information on cases of violence registered

Angola

between 2010 and 2012; the number of shelters available; and complaints reported in 2013.

Committee's evaluation:

[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.

[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 impact of the department on domestic violence created within the National Directorate of Criminal Investigation.

[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.

[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.

Paragraph 23

Summary of State party's reply:

The Government increased information and awareness campaigns on birth registration procedures.

The State party adopted Presidential Decree 80/13 and Executive Decree 309/1 allowing for free birth registration and free identification cards until 31 December 2016.

In order to increase the number of birth registrations, in August 2012, new opening hours for the registration posts and civil registry offices were introduced. Thanks to the measures adopted, the number of registrations increased substantially.

Committee's evaluation:

[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 on 27 March 2013;
 - (b) Measures taken to improve the official system of birth registration, since the adoption of the Committee's concluding observations on 27 March 2013.
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Angola

Recommended action: A letter should be sent reflecting the analysis of the Committee.

Next periodic report: 28 March 2017
