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Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honour to refer to the examination of the fourth periodic report of Slovenia at the Committee's forty-second session, held in October-November 2008. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations were transmitted to your Permanent Mission (CEDAW/C/SVN/CO/4). You may recall that in paragraph 43 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested Slovenia to provide, within two years, further information regarding the specific areas of concern identified by the Committee in paragraphs 14 and 28 of the concluding observations.

The Committee welcomes the information submitted by Slovenia on 10 December 2010 under the CEDAW follow-up procedure (CEDAW/C/SVN/CO/4/Add.1), in a timely fashion.

At its forty-eighth session, held in January-February 2011 in Geneva, the Committee examined the information provided and noted that Slovenia had responded to all recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 and 18. The Committee considered that while some of its recommendations had been fully implemented by Slovenia, others had not been implemented or had only been partially implemented.

The following observations are made by the Committee in respect of the State party's replies:

- a. With regard to the information provided by the State party that the Office for Equal Opportunities has not been transformed into a general anti-discrimination body and that the main tasks of the Office continue to be the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the promotion of gender equality. It also notes that the funding of the Office has slightly increased in 2009 and 2010. The Committee therefore decided that the information provided by the State party on this matter is fully satisfactory.

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- b. The Committee notes that an inter-ministerial working group was established in June 2010 to prepare a comprehensive institutional arrangement for ensuring equality and protection from discrimination in the State party. According to the information received, this proposal was due to be finalized by the end of October 2010. In this connection, the Committee decided that the recommendation in paragraph 14 of its concluding observations to “consider the establishment of an Advocate for Equal Opportunities for Men and Women with independent status and adequate mandate, authority and visibility” has been partially implemented by the State party.
- c. The Committee commends the State party for its ongoing extensive review of the electoral system aimed at ensuring a gender-balanced representation in the National Assembly, as well as in municipal councils and in the European Parliament. However, it notes that the proposed amendments to the National Assembly Elections Act do not seem to have been discussed by the Government and Parliament. The Committee therefore decided that its recommendation for the State party to review the National Assembly Elections Act has been partially implemented.
- d. The Committee regrets that the State party has not taken any steps to implement the recommendation to increase the number of women mayors.
- e. The Committee notes that the State party is encouraging the media to ensure equal presence of women and men candidates during electoral campaigns and that direct financing of activities of political parties to promote women’s political representation was discontinued in 2004, as it was incompatible with the Political Parties Act. However, the Committee considered that the State party has not provided sufficient information on the concrete measures taken to “enhance awareness-raising campaigns on the importance of women’s participation in political life” and on “special capacity-building initiatives for women candidates”.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the authorities of Slovenia on the implementation of the Convention and, in that context, to receiving further information on the measures taken by Slovenia to address the concerns indicated in sub-paragraphs b)-e) above in its next periodic report.

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

Yours sincerely,



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Rapporteur on Follow-up
Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women