



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés



Excerpts of Concluding Observations and Recommendations from UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies

- Universal Periodic Review:

BAHRAIN

We would like to bring your attention to the following excerpts from UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies' Concluding Observations and Recommendations and the Human Rights Council's Special Procedure Reports, relating to issues of interest and persons of concern to UNHCR with regards to Bahrain.

1. Treaty Body Reports

CRC/C/BHR/CO/2-3

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, 55th session

17 June 2011

Name and nationality

38. The Committee welcomes the 2006 royal decree granting citizenship to at least 372 children of Bahraini mothers and non-citizen fathers. The Committee further notes with appreciation the endorsement of Law 35/2009 which mandates that children of Bahraini women married to non-Bahrainis pay the same fees as citizens for government services such as health, education, and accommodation. However, the Committee is concerned that children born from Bahraini mothers do not have direct access to nationality, as children born from Bahraini fathers.

39. **The Committee strongly urges the State party to revise its national legislation with a view to allowing the transfer of Bahraini citizenship to the children of Bahraini mothers and non-citizen fathers on the same basis as the transfer of citizenship to children of Bahraini fathers and non-citizen mothers.**

CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/2

**COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
WOMEN, 42nd session**

14 November 2008

Trafficking

26. While commending the State party's enactment of Law No. 1 of 2008 on human trafficking, which includes the provisions set forth in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the additional protocols thereto, and the establishment of a National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking with the responsibility to devise programmes to prevent and combat human trafficking and protect victims from further harm, and to coordinate with national machinery with

regard to human trafficking data, the Committee remains seriously concerned at the existence of trafficking in women and girls into the State party for the purposes of sexual exploitation. The Committee also regrets the lack of statistical data on women who are being trafficked in and out of the country.

27. The Committee recommends that the State party effectively implement the recently adopted law on human trafficking and introduce and implement a strategy that includes measures of prevention, prosecution and punishment of offenders, as well as measures to protect and rehabilitate victims and reintegrate them into society. The Committee further calls upon the State party to increase its efforts in regard to international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination to prevent trafficking through information exchange. The Committee requests that the State party carefully monitor the impact of measures taken and provide information on the results achieved as well as statistical data in its next periodic report.

Nationality

30. While welcoming the royal decree, issued in September 2006 by the King granting citizenship to at least 372 children of Bahraini mothers and non-citizen fathers, the Committee remains concerned that to date, the draft Nationality Law concerning the elimination of nationality-related cases of discrimination against women allowing the transfer of Bahraini citizenship to the children of Bahraini women and non-citizen fathers on the same basis as children of Bahraini fathers and non-citizen women has not yet been passed.

31. The Committee urges the State party to take all necessary steps to expedite the adoption of the draft Nationality Law in order to comply with article 9 of the Convention, and to withdraw its reservation to article 9, paragraph 2.

**Human Rights Liaison Unit
Division of International Protection
UNHCR
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