

Viktoriya Akopova

09.12.2009 12:02

Dear Mr. Jeremy Wates,

I would like to thank you for the letter of 25 November 2009. We are glad to hear that our Third Official Report was accepted by the Compliance Committee and we hope that mission of the experts will visit Turkmenistan in near future.

As to your request about proposal for changes to the Act on Public Associations we would like to inform:

On purpose to implementation international obligations of Turkmenistan under the International Pact on Public and Political Rights and as well as the Aarhus Convention ECE after several round tables conducted the Institute of Democracy Human Rights with support of International Center of Non-Commercial Rights (acting within USAID programme) was prepared proposals for changes to the Act on Public Associations (• 197-II from 21 October 2003) in articles 5, 13-18, 28-29 and 31 it is planned on approval into the State Committee on improving of the legislation of Turkmenistan.

Proposed changes are concerning the following:

- Repealing of interdiction for the unregistered associations activity;
- Setting of the minimal number of constitutors (5 constitutors), for creation of any public association, irrespective of activity area;
- Realization of the right international citizens and persons without citizenship to act as constitutors, members of public associations, as well as their participants;
- Limitations of the power of the Ministry of Justice repeal the registry of public association, interrupt their activities, and accepting this decisions to make the exclusive prerogative of the court.

Sincerely yours,
Victoria Akopova