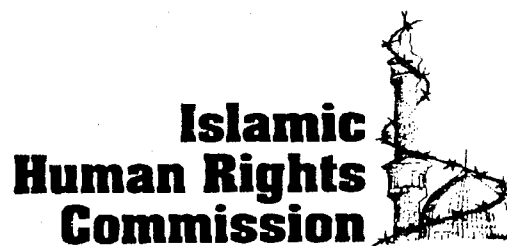


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22nd September 2010

Human Rights Council.

15th Session.

Agenda item 6. UPR Country –Turkey

Individual Oral Statement- Islamic Human Rights Commission.

Mr. President

The Islamic Human Rights Commission is pleased to see the changes made in the last eight years by the Turkish government and would like to congratulate Turkey on these changes, such as the change in the treatment of political prisoners with torture being a thing of the past. We also recognize positive changes towards Kurds and other minorities and hope this will continue.

However, treatment towards Muslim women wearing the Headscarf has not changed. 70% of Muslim women in Turkey wear the Headscarf, therefore a significant proportion of Turkish women have not only been denied educational rights but are being excluded from participating in the work sector. Their right to education has been denied by a ban on wearing the Headscarf at university. Such legislation results in the discrimination of law abiding citizens.

The recent decision by the UN convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) regarding the Headscarf ban in Turkey affirms the seriousness of this issue. Stating that, and I quote "Legal action should be taken against those who work to apply the Headscarf ban, and the solution of the problem should not be deferred to a later date." They also recommend that Turkey should immediately terminate all discriminative practices against covered women.

We urge the Turkish government to abolish the Headscarf ban and provide these women with the same rights that other Turkish citizens enjoy. This will not only have a positive impact on the Turkish society but it will help the Turkish government regain the trust of their Muslim citizens.

Thank you Mr. President