

**Mandate of the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination  
against women in law and in practice**

REFERENCE: OL  
GBR 1/2015:

10 February 2015

Excellency,

On behalf of the UN Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, I would like to thank you for your response to our communication dated 11 November 2014 concerning the practice note on Sharia succession rules published by the Law Society, which we considered discriminatory against women, especially Muslim women, and/or women from minority communities.

The Working Group appreciates the acknowledgment sent by your Government and was pleased to learn last month, through the Law Society President, that the practice note, in its current form, was withdrawn from the website of the Law Society.

We would also like to note that, although the Law Society is an independent private body, the Government has a due diligence obligation to prevent discrimination against women by private parties, under the international human rights law duty to protect recognized in the CEDAW (Art 2(f)), amongst other international instruments.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration

Emna Aouij  
Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against  
women in law and in practice