



CAYMAN ISLANDS

Office of the Governor  
Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

FROM THE GOVERNOR

5 December 2011

Mr Richard Coles  
Chair  
Human Rights Commission  
Government Administration Building  
P.O. Box 391  
Grand Cayman KY1-1106

*Dear Richard,*

Thank you for your letter dated 8 October, 2011. I can confirm that the Cayman Islands Government remains committed to signing up to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

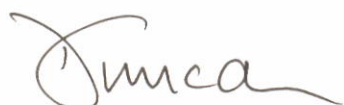
The Gender Equality Bill, which was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 14 September, 2011 and which I signed into law on 10 October, was a significant step forward towards this goal. I understand, however, that a full review of Cayman legislation is needed before the Cayman Islands Government can request extension of CEDAW to the Cayman Islands. This review will ascertain whether Cayman's laws are compliant with CEDAW.

I understand that this review, which will be funded through the Commonwealth Foundation, will be carried out by a regional consultant and a local counterpart in January and February of next year. The report by the student members of the Caymanian Bar Association is useful and will feed into this review process.

Once the review has taken place, there will be greater clarity as to whether any legislation will need to be amended and when the Cayman Islands Government will be in a position to request extension of CEDAW.

I will keep your Commission updated.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Duncan".

Duncan Taylor

Cc: Honourable Mike Adam, Minister for Community Affairs, Gender and Housing  
Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Donovan Ebanks