

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES (SECOND BATCH)

BELGIUM

- Belgium congratulates the Philippines with the adoption of the Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act of 2012. Will the Philippines ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance?
- Will the Government of the Philippines respond positively to the visit requested by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions?
- Is the Government of the Philippines taking steps to repeal all legislation criminalizing abortion, including healthcare providers performing such services, and take measures to allow legal and safe abortions at a minimum in cases of rape or incest, where the life or health of the women and girls is at risk, or where the fetus is not viable ?
- What concrete steps is the Government of the Philippines undertaking in order to prevent children to be engaged in child labour?

MEXICO

- What are the mechanisms to ensure that any legislative reform ensures strict adherence to international human rights standards, particularly in relation to the rights of children? How is the best interest of the child guaranteed regarding access to justice and judicial sentences related to offences committed by children?
- What laws have been adopted to ensure due consultations in all actions affecting indigenous peoples? How do they ensure that environmental protection measures are carried out in full respect of economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples?
- Have there been efforts to harmonize national legislation to international maternal health standards? What are the national strategies to guarantee full access to reproductive health?

NETHERLANDS

- Drugs combatting policy

Could the government of the Philippines inform us on the status of the investigations, which have been launched into the killings related to combatting drugs, including those, which occurred during police operations? How many have been launched? Have any been finalised so far and, if so, what - in general - have been their conclusions?

- Children's Rights/Prevention of Online Child Abuse

While appreciative of the strong cooperation with the Netherlands in fighting online child exploitation and human trafficking as well as its positive stance towards international

cooperation, could the government of the Philippines indicate what measures are being undertaken to prevent and respond to cases of online child exploitation?

- **Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights**

What steps are being taken by the government of the Philippines to ensure the full implementation of laws guaranteeing women's and minor's access to the full range of reproductive health information and services as well as to decriminalize abortion on all grounds and legalise abortion in cases of rape, incest, threats to the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant woman, or fetal impairment?

SWEDEN

- During the last Universal Periodic Review, the Philippines noted recommendations to amend the abortion law to allow for safe abortion in cases of rape, incest or when the health or life of the pregnant woman is at risk. In November 2016, the Philippine Commission on Human Rights made a recommendation for Congress to review the abortion ban and to consider the recommendations of CEDAW to decriminalize abortion. What steps does the Government of the Philippines intend to take in response to these recommendations?
- The rate of teenage pregnancies is on the rise in the Philippines. The Committee on the Rights of the Child in General comment No. 20 (2016) on the implementation of the rights of the child during adolescence (CRC/C/GC/20) stated: "There should be no barriers to commodities, information and counselling on sexual and reproductive health and rights, such as requirements for third-party consent or authorization". Taking this into consideration, has the Government of the Philippines any plans to propose that the RPRH law is amended to allow access of minors to modern methods of family planning without parental consent?
- During the last Universal Periodic Review, the Philippines accepted recommendations to ensure compliance with the rights of children and women by implementing a plan of action against domestic violence and to fight human trafficking, especially in women and children. What actions has the Government of the Philippines taken in this area?
- During the last Universal Periodic Review, the Philippines accepted recommendations to take necessary measures to provide adequate protection to journalists and human rights defenders, in particular regarding enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings. What steps has the Government of the Philippines taken to ensure the effective protection of journalists and human rights defenders, including by holding the perpetrators of the Maguindanao massacre accountable?

SWITZERLAND

- We commend the Philippines for its commitment to peace as one of its highest political priorities. How is the Government of the Philippines, besides the work committed to the revised Bangsamoro Basic Law, implementing the different elements of the peace architecture for the Bangsamoro – especially the more than 90 recommendations formulated by the Transitional Justice and Reconciliation Commission?

- Switzerland welcomes the Philippines support to the recent UN GA resolution 71/198 on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which reiterates the need for prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. How does the Government of the Philippines intend to effectively conduct investigations into suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions?
- How does the Government of the Philippines plan to treat the high number of alleged drug addicts who have announced themselves to the authorities?
- What is the timeline for the Philippine Congress to pass the draft law (HB 13) on Children in Situations of Armed Conflict to ensure better protection of children against grave violations in the context of armed conflict in adherence to international law standards?
- What are the measures taken by the Government of the Philippines to ensure that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court is fully implemented in its national legislation?