

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SINGAPORE
SECOND BATCH

BELGIUM

- When does the Government of Singapore foresee the ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which it signed in 2015?
- Is the Government of Singapore considering ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and the Additional Protocols to these conventions?
- Is the Government of Singapore considering lifting its reservations with regards to articles 2, 44, 11, 16 and 29 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women?
- Is the Government of Singapore considering ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and acceding to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court?
- Is the Government of Singapore considering extending a standing invitation to the Special Procedures?
- Is the Government of Singapore considering reinstating the moratorium on the death penalty?

NORWAY

➤ Death penalty

- We take note of legal amendments in 2012 giving courts discretion to apply life imprisonment in lieu of the death penalty in certain defined situations. Will Singapore consider joining the trend towards the abolition of the death penalty by a de facto or de jure moratorium?

➤ LGBT rights

- We appreciate that social acceptance of homosexuality seems to be growing in Singapore, and that section 377 A of the Penal Code is not proactively enforced. As a result, the dignity and freedom of individuals belonging to the LGBT community is slowly growing. The retention of section 377A does however strongly signal against a pluralistic and inclusive Singapore for all. Under which conditions will Singapore consider revoking section 377A?

➤ Co-operation with UN Special Procedures

- Norway attaches considerable importance to the work of the UN Special Procedures. Singapore has pending requests for a country visit from the Special Rapporteur on the rights to peaceful assembly and association, and the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. Will Singapore welcome these Special Rapporteurs?

MEXICO

- Mexico notes with appreciation that the government is committed to continuously examine the criminal justice system in order to ensure its effectiveness and fairness. Mexico notes that such examination led to reforms in 2012 on the application of the death penalty and that in 2014 the de facto moratoria in the application of such punishment was put to end. Could you share information on the mechanism for examination, its methodology and actors involved in such continuous process? Is Singapore considering to harmonize its death penalty threshold to the most serious crimes in accordance with international law?
- Is Singapore considering to harmonize the definition of children in accordance with the CRC and include ages from 7 to 17? Is Singapore considering to explicitly prohibit by law the recruitment of children in armed conflicts as well as to prohibit the use of corporal punishment including in sentences for crimes?
- What measures have been taken to ensure equal Rights between women and men in marriage, family, divorce, and nationality? Is Singapore considering to allow the equal election of jurisdiction between civil family tribunals and religious ones?
- How does the Employment Act protect the right to due process of migrant workers? What safeguard's does it enshrine in cases of claims against employers?

SWITZERLAND

- In order to work in Singapore, many migrant workers have to pay excessive recruitment fees in their country of origin, or once they arrive in Singapore. Does the Government of Singapore consider establishing a framework of cooperation with countries of origin to ensure that migrant workers do not have to pay excessive recruitment fees?
- The Societies Act of Singapore gives discretionary power to the Registrar of Societies to recognize a group as a society. It has been reported that no LGBT advocacy group has been granted registration by the Registrar of Societies. What are the reasons for this lack of registration? How do you ensure that the Registrar of Societies grants registration on the basis of the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment?
- During its first Universal Periodic Exam, Singapore has accepted a recommendation from France to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. What steps has Singapore taken to implement this recommendation?

