

## ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ANGOLA

### **DENMARK**

- What is the reason Angola has not adhered to UNCAT? When will that happen?

### **HUNGARY**

- Hungary appreciates that Angola as a sign of her commitment to protect human rights ratified numerous international conventions (ICESCR, ICCPR, CEDAW, CRC, etc.) In 2004, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women encouraged Angola to consider ratifying the other core human rights treaties including the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPRD). Does Angola intend to ratify these treaties as recommended by the relevant treaty body?
- In 2009, the UN Country Team (UNCT) suggested that the current revision of the Constitutional Law creates an opportunity for strengthening the status of women and children in the society and for reinforcing protective legislation in relation to victims of human trafficking. Will the recommendation of the UNCT be seriously considered during the revision process of the Constitution? What results have been reached so far?
- In 2009, UNCT noted that overall the right to life, liberty and security had improved significantly since the end of the conflict in 2002. However, the report pointed out numerous cases of human rights violations. (As an example, the report mentions arbitrary arrests in Cabinda.) What preventive measures have been taken to avoid these kinds of human rights violations?
- The reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and of the International Organization for Migration pointed out that it is very problematic for detained foreigners to access consular help. Moreover, the closure of the mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) operating in Angola in 2009 was a significant loss as ICRC was the only international organization that had been granted access to prisons. What measures the Government consider to take to guarantee the rights of detained foreigners? How can consular access be guaranteed for these people?

## **LATVIA**

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 65 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Considering previous cooperation of Angola with special procedures mandate holders - would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the future?

## **SWEDEN**

- Angola has not ratified the Convention against Torture and not signed the Optional Protocol to the Convention. Civil society organisations indicate the use of torture in places of detention. Furthermore, according to reports from the UN organs and international organisations, the standards and conditions in prisons are insufficient.
- Could the government of Angola elaborate on its view of ratifying the Convention and signing the Optional Protocol to it, and on what measures it is taking to eliminate the occurrence of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in places of detention as well as any measures to improve the overall conditions for persons in detention?
- Angola has ratified the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights. However, there are continuous reports from international NGOs and the UN raising concerns with regard to the impartiality of the judicial system and the lack of sufficient resources.
- Could the Government of Angola elaborate which measures have been taken to ensure the independence of the judicial system and that sufficient resources are allocated to ensure a functioning judicial system?

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND**

- Could you please elaborate further on the role civil society in Angola played in the preparation of your national report for this process?
- What steps is Angola taking to fulfil their pledges made before accession to the Human Rights Council, in particular to increase cooperation with the OHCHR and to ratify the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1988)?
- We welcome the introduction of the 2006 Press Law. Could you provide some more detail on how the authorities are ensuring that this law is being properly implemented and that freedom of expression for journalists is respected and upheld, including for independent journalists?
- Could you tell us more about the right of assembly and political demonstration in Angola and what type of organisations are against the law? How do you

ensure that the decisions on the legality of organisations are fair and not controlled by state interests? Please also comment on the difficulties outlined in the UN stakeholders' report for civil society organisations to acquire legal personality and describe what steps are being taken to improve the registration process.

- What steps is Angola taking to ensure the registration of both children and adults?
- Could you please inform us what steps Angola is taking to ensure refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo are being repatriated quickly while upholding their human rights?
- What steps is Angola taking to improve the detention facilities and police treatment of prisoners? It would also be interesting to know what police and military accountability mechanisms are in place to ensure they are held to account for any human rights violations?
- What steps is Angola taking to ensure that all those affected by evictions are accorded the legal protections to which they are entitled under international standards?

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