

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO CAMBODIA-Add.2

THE NETHERLANDS

- The stakeholder report (paras. 16 and 26) notes a number of deficiencies in the Cambodian judicial system. Could the Royal Government of Cambodia elaborate on the measures it has taken to end impunity in both high profile cases such as crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea and in cases that directly affect many people in daily life such as rape and trade of children?
- Would the Royal Government of Cambodia be willing to accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on the Independences of Judges and Lawyers made in 2006, 2008 and 2009 to be allowed to pay a visit to Cambodia?
- A more equal distribution of wealth would provide immense possibilities to enhance the economic, social and cultural rights of the population as a whole. Does the Royal Government of Cambodia intend to increase public expenditure from the current 3,5% of GDP with a view to improving the economic, social and cultural rights situation for its citizens?
- Despite the efforts of the Royal Government of Cambodia in the area of land ownership and land reform (national report, paras. 42 – 47), civil society reports serious problems with land-grabbing and evictions (stakeholders report, paras. 48 – 51). Would the Government of Cambodia be willing to enter into a dialogue with the NGOs involved?

HUNGARY

- We deem very important Cambodia's strict cooperation with the relevant institutions of the UN, especially the facilitation of the work of the special rapporteur on Cambodia and that of the local Office of the OHCHR. How does Cambodia intend to strengthen its cooperation with the above-mentioned UN-mechanisms and contribute to their successful work in the future?
- According to our position, the National Human Rights Institute, established in 2006 could improve the communication between the government and the civil society; nevertheless human rights defenders do not fully enjoy fundamental rights. The fact that they cannot fully enjoy the right to peaceful assembly and to the freedom of expression constitutes a serious threat to their work. What kind of steps does the Government plan to take to guarantee them the right to freedom of expression including their free access to the electronic media?
- We appreciate that Cambodia made it possible for the EU mission to observe the elections in 2008. At the same time, regrettably serious deficiencies and irregularities were experienced during the elections. According to the evaluation of the EU election observation mission the elections did not meet entirely all international standards in this regard. What kind of steps does the government plan to take for the adequate implementation of election regulations in the future?
