

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO CUBA-Addendum

DENMARK

- Denmark welcomes the recent signing by Cuba of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. What is being done to ensure the prompt ratification of these covenants and what is the timeframe for this process? When does Cuba intend to ratify OPCAT and establish an independent and effective national preventive mechanism?
- A number of individuals are imprisoned in Cuba due to their expression of views, which has been seen as contrary to the beliefs of the Cuban government. When will these prisoners of conscience be released and what is being done to improve their conditions in prison?
- There are reports of harassment, detention and persecution in Cuba of human rights defenders and journalists who peacefully exercise their rights to freedom of expression. What will be done to ensure that all members of Cuban society are allowed to exercise their right to freedom of expression in accordance with international human rights conventions?

GERMANY

Human rights standards

- So far, Cuba has ratified 4 of 7 major international conventions on human rights, the Convention against Torture, the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. In February 2008, Cuba signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as Cuba announced in December 2007. The Cuban Government has announced that both Covenants have to be ratified.
When does the Cuban Government envisage to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights signed in February 2008?
