

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO-Add.1

ARGENTINA

Impunidad

- Los procedimientos especiales Naciones Unidas así como también los órganos de tratados han manifestado que la lucha contra la impunidad en la RDC debe ser una prioridad. La Argentina desea preguntar qué medidas está realizando el gobierno o piensa implementar para terminar con la impunidad en el país.

Género

- Teniendo en cuenta lo señalado en la compilación preparada por el Alto Comisionado para los Derechos Humanos (A/HRC/WG.6/6/COD/2), la Argentina desea preguntar qué medidas se están llevando a cabo para mejorar la situación de las mujeres en el ámbito social, económico y político, especialmente respecto del acceso a la tierra, la educación, a lugares de toma de decisión, el combate a la violencia en todas sus formas, especialmente la violencia sexual y la equidad en el empleo.

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Has the Government considered acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
- What measures has the Government of Democratic Republic of the Congo adopted to strengthen freedom of expression and to protect human rights defenders and journalist against harassment and attacks or arbitrary detention?
- According to the report of the Secretary-General, members of armed groups, FARDC and PNC (National Congolese Police) were responsible for more than 80 per cent of reported cases of sexual violence against women and children. What measures are being adopted to ensure their human rights education and training and their accountability for such violations of human rights?
- How is protected the judicial independence against corruption and political interference? What measures are in place to expand the State justice system effectively in rural territories?
- How is ensured on national level implementation of international obligations from international human rights treaties, as e.g. the right to privacy and non-discrimination, both stemming from articles of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?

DENMARK

- Which steps has the DRC Government taken to develop effective mechanisms to prevent violence against women and girls, to ensure prosecution of perpetrators and to provide full reparation for victims and survivors, in line with UN Security Council resolution 1325 and 1820?

- The massive use of child soldiers and the sexual abuse and violence against children are extremely concerning. Which steps have the Government taken to implement the "2009 child protection code" and the "Convention on the Rights of the Child"?
- What steps have been taken to establish an independent transitional justice mechanism to address grave human rights violations committed in the DRC since 1993?
- What efforts have the Government undertaken to arrest General Bosco Ntaganda and surrender him to the ICC?

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 66 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Considering previous cooperation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo 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?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Could you please elaborate further on the role civil society in DRC played in the preparation of your national report for this process?
- Could you please give us an update on DRC government's plans for Security Sector Reform and the government scheme? How do you see prospects for integrating the ex-rebel group CNDP into the army and into Congolese politics?
- Could you please elaborate on what investigations have taken place or are due to take place into alleged human rights abuses committed by the 213th brigade of the FARDC (Congolese national army) in North Kivu and what action will be taken against them should they be found guilty? According to initial MONUC investigations, at least 62 civilians have been killed. MONUC has withdrawn support for the brigade.
- What steps has the DRC government taken to assure internally displaced persons' and refugees' return in the region?
- We welcome President Kabila's announcement on 'Zero Tolerance' towards sexual violence. However, many rapes are still committed by uniformed officers, both civil and military. What is the DRC government doing to tackle sexual violence, in particular what action has been taken against the five FARDC officers named by the UNSC in May 2009?
- Could you please elaborate on what steps the DRC Government is taking to put an end to impunity, by bringing the perpetrators of human rights violations to justice?

- Could you please elaborate on the situation of ICC indictee Bosco Ntadanga?
- Could you please elaborate on how the DRC government is working to ensure that child soldiers are released and reintegrated into their home communities?
- Could you please clarify DRC's government's position on the death penalty?
- Could you please elaborate on the existence of a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris principles?
