

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NAMIBIA ADD.1

UNITED KINGDOM

- Is the Government consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture? Would Namibia consider enacting a law that defines torture in accordance with the Convention?
- Would Namibia consider this a standing invitation to UN special rapporteurs?
- Namibia's constitution guarantees human rights for all citizens. However, same sex activity between men still a criminal offence. Are there plans to amend this? What steps are being taken to ensure that laws and policies more generally do not discriminate against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender persons on the grounds of their sexual orientation?
- What steps is Namibia taking to address challenges against women, including gender based violence, inequalities in the law pertaining to marriage and inheritance, and stigma attached to rape reporting (especially marital rape). What steps is Namibia taking to raise awareness women's awareness of their legal rights?
- Regarding reports of forced or coerced sterilisation in HIV-positive women, what steps are being taken to ensure women understand the nature and effects of the procedure before it is carried out?
- Regarding reports of lengthy delays for trials to be heard in court, what steps are being made to clear the backlog of cases, train judges and and guarantee that trials take place within a reasonable length of time?
- Are there plans for Namibia to establish a National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles?
- How will the Government follow-up to this Review? Who will have lead responsibility in Government? How will civil society be involved in implementation?