

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO KUWAIT

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 67 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Considering previous cooperation of Kuwait 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?

SLOVENIA

- Stakeholders note that perpetrators are rarely arrested even when women turn to the police and file complaints. In this regard we would like to ask whether the Kuwaiti government intends to start specific awareness-raising campaigns about gender-based violence in Kuwait.

SWITZERLAND

- The new labour law for the private sector excludes domestic employees from being subjects of this law. Kuwait's national penal legislation does not include a specific regulation which punishes forced labour. The lack of legal protection for domestic staff leads to an exploitation of this vulnerable group.

What concrete measures is the government of Kuwait planning to put in place to fill these gaps in the legal system? When is the resolution, as announced in article 5 of the new labour law, expected to be issued ('Domestic Labourers in respect of whom a resolution shall be issued by the competent Minister for organising their affairs and the rules and regulations governing the relationship between them and their employers')?

- Stateless peoples in Kuwait are facing restrictions in the areas of work, health, education, matrimony, the possibility to have a family, the right to stay and, without the right to stay, face the risk of being pursued and expelled.

Does the government consider adhering to international conventions such as the 'Refugee Convention' and the 'Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Peoples' of 1954?

- A gap between international instruments ratified and their implementation can be observed in Kuwait. However, art. 70 of the Kuwait Constitution states the primacy of international law over national law.

How does the government of Kuwait ensure the primacy of international law and its direct application in the national system?
