ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO TURKMENISTAN-ADD 1

MONTENEGRO

Montenegro congratulates the Government of Turkmenistan for their efforts in incorporating the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women into the Family Code.

• <u>Question:</u> What steps is the Government undertaking to adopt a comprehensive law addressing all forms of violence against women, prosecute perpetrators and provide assistance and protection to women victims, especially in rural areas?

NORWAY

- Referring to the new Mass Media Act of December 24th 2012, what steps will Turkmenistan take to ensure that everyone, including human rights defenders, journalists and opposition leaders, can exercise their right to freedom of expression in conformity with Turkmenistan's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
- In compliance with the 2012 law on Political Parties, what concrete measures will the government undertake to encourage the establishment of further new and genuinely independent political parties in order to enhance the political pluralism in the society?
- In the last UPR Turkmenistan undertook to raise awareness of women of their rights through legal literacy programs and assistance to claim their rights. The National Report indicates that such public awareness activities have in fact been conducted in Turkmenistan. Norway welcomes this and would appreciate if Turkmenistan could elaborate on the activities that have been undertaken in this regard.