

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE BELIZE

GERMANY

- Germany is concerned by the failure of the Government of Belize to submit its initial reports to the CERD and the Human Rights Committee. While the Government of Belize accepted our recommendation on this very same point in the Universal Periodic Review of 2009, no reports have been forthcoming. Is the Government of Belize planning to submit any such reports in the future? In what areas can the Government of Belize identify the need for technical assistance in order to produce such reports?
- Germany is concerned that the Human Rights Committee noted that Belize has no constitutional or statutory provision that expressly forbids discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity. Moreover, we are concerned that not only does the Criminal Code penalize same-sex relations but that homosexuality is also a ground for refusing entry to the country. Does the Government of Belize believe its laws are in line with its obligations under international human rights instruments? Is the Government of Belize taking any steps to review its constitution and legislation to ensure that discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity is prohibited?

NETHERLANDS

- Can the government of Belize elaborate on its efforts to ensure that all police and security officers receive human rights training?
- Can the government of Belize provide information on the progress in the implementation and impact of the National Gender Policy?
- What actions has the government of Belize undertaken to sensitize its population on HIV issues, especially adolescent females and populations with high-risk sexual activity?
- Does Belize plan to ratify OP-CAT and ICCPR-OP 2? Could the government of Belize elaborate on what have been the main domestic challenges which have prevented ratification so far?
- Is Belize planning to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the ICC and to investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes effectively before its national courts?

NORWAY

- LGBT persons in Belize reportedly often refrain from reporting human rights violations due to the lack of trust in the police and judicial agents, from whom they may have experienced discrimination (OHCHR A/HRC/WG.6/BLZ/3, point

C.IV.22). Could the Government of Belize elaborate on whether it has or will establish any initiatives to combat discrimination of LGBT persons from police officials and judicial agents, as well as their initiatives on how to increase the documentation of attacks and human rights violations from LGBT persons. We would also welcome an elaboration of whether there are any initiatives for protecting and promoting the freedom of opinion and expression of LGBT activists.

- What steps will the Government take to eliminate all discrimination of the Mayan community?