

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MOROCCO – ADDENDUM 1

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- We welcome free and fair elections last year. What efforts is the Government of Morocco making to improve democratisation at both local and national levels?
- Could you please elaborate further on the extent to which civil society in Morocco was involved in the preparation of your national report for this process?
- We welcome Morocco's significant advances in signing up to various international human rights conventions. What steps is the Government of Morocco taking towards signing others, such as OPCAT?
- We welcome the fact that, though the death penalty has been handed down in last couple of years, it has still not used. What steps is the Government of Morocco taking towards reviewing the use of the death penalty?
- The reports highlight continued concerns over censorship of the media, such as Al Watan, Nichane, Le Journal, Tel Quel and others. A number of Association Marocain des Droits de l'Homme (AMDH) officials have also been arrested, as well as members of Al Adl wa al Ihsan. What is the Government of Morocco doing to ensure the protection of freedom of speech?
- Could you please elaborate further on the existence and status of a National Human Rights Institution in Morocco and if it complies fully with the Paris Principles?

DENMARK

- Freedom of the news media is relatively broadly acknowledged in Morocco, however a range of incidents underscore that further progress should be made. Which steps will Morocco take to ensure such progress?
- Take note of the fact that child labour is prohibited. However many children under the age of 15 are working – some under difficult circumstances. What does the Moroccan government intend to do to assure the respect of Children's rights?
- Acknowledge the advances made under the government's reform program intending to further guarantee the impartiality and independence of the institutions of the judicial system. How will Morocco ensure the full independence of the judiciary?

FINLAND

- We acknowledge that the Government of Morocco has made commitments to protect children from violence, including by prohibiting the use of corporal punishment in schools and in penal institutions¹.
- With regard to the United Nations study on violence against children², which states that "no violence against children is justifiable; all violence against children is preventable", we would appreciate to receive further information on legislative, administrative and other measures taken to implement the Study's overarching and setting-specific recommendations in Morocco. In particular, we would greatly appreciate if the Government of Morocco could share with us good practices to prevent and respond to violence against children³.

¹ Summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of resolution 5/1 of the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/WG.6/1/MAR/3, paragraph 14).

² Report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children (A/61/299).

³ Report (which provides information on the dissemination of the United Nations study on violence against children and on progress made in the initial phase of follow-up to the study) of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children (A/62/209, see footnote 69).