

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO YEMEN-ADD 1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- The Czech Republic is alarmed at numerous cases of juvenile offenders facing death penalty in Yemen and the role of some State prosecutors in court proceedings involving juveniles. What steps does the Government undertake to ensure that death penalty is not applied for persons under the age of 18?
- There are reports of women facing severe and widespread discrimination in law and practice in Yemen. They suffer from domestic violence and remain victims of female genital mutilation. The Czech Republic would like to learn more about measures the Government undertakes or plans to undertake to effectively protect the rights of women.
- A significant number of girls are reported to have been subjected to early marriages. The Minister of Human Rights pledged to present new legislation addressing the issue and the National Dialogue Conference recommended the establishment of the minimum age of 18 for marriage. When should be the respective legislation introduced?

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Yemen considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Does the Government of Yemen intend to respond positively to the special rapporteurs that have requested to visit the country, like the special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the special rapporteur on torture, and the special rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief?
- Is the Government of Yemen considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under all the human rights conventions to which it is already a State party?
- Is the Government of Yemen considering ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances and the Rome Statue of the International Criminal Court?
- Is the Government of Yemen considering removing its reservations to article 29(1) of CEDAW?
- The CESCR has recommended Yemen to adopt and implement legislation setting the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, and raise awareness of the negative effects of

child marriages. Which concrete steps has the Government taken to implement this recommendation?

- How has the Government of Yemen addressed the concern of the CAT at the very low age of criminal responsibility (7 years)?
- Which concrete steps have been taken by the authorities to consider children's issues and needs in the context of the National Dialogue?
- Which measures have been taken by the Government of Yemen to prevent the recruitment and use of children by the Government forces of Yemen?
- What has been the outcome of the discussions that the Ministry of Legal Affairs has initiated to reduce the scope of the death penalty?
- How many individuals are currently on death row? Of those, how many are foreign nationals? And how many are juvenile offenders?
- Do family members have the right under national law to be informed of an execution before it takes place? If so, how are they informed and what is the notice period?
- Do children and other family members of a person sentenced to death have the right to a final meeting before an execution is carried out?

MEXICO

- What is the status on the presidentially-decreed creation of an independent commission which will conduct a transparent investigation into all human rights violations committed during the 2011 protests in compliance with international standards?
- What measures are being taken to free journalists and activists who were deprived of their freedom as a result of their participation in the 2011 peaceful protests?
- What measures is Yemen taking in order to ensure respect for women's rights and in particular how is it promoting women's participation and representation in social and political life?

NORWAY

- What steps will the Government of Yemen take to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, in line with the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and Yemen's accepted recommendations from the UPR in 2009?

- How can the Government of Yemen better safeguard the rights of the child? Will the Government adopt legislation that provides a minimum age for marriage?
- How will the Government of Yemen ensure adherence to its international treaty obligations with regard to protecting minors from the death penalty?

SLOVENIA

- According to some reports, half of Yemen's population has no access to clean and safe drinking water, while a severe water crisis could rapidly worsen over the next years and decade. In this regard we would like to ask the distinguished delegation of Yemen, whether Yemen envisages any government actions that will enable people's access to safe drinking water and sanitation, as also for regulating the use of water, including rainfall, for agricultural purposes.

SPAIN

Spain is aware of the efforts of the government of Yemen to set a minimum age for marriage (drafting of a bill approved by the House of Representatives in February 2009, circular of the Minister of Justice in which registrars were instructed to refuse to register the marriage of any person under 17 years old).

- What are the main obstacles faced by the government of Yemen to guarantee the entry into force of a law setting the minimum age for marriage in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- How does the government of Yemen intend to overcome those obstacles?

Spain welcomes the decision of the Minister of Justice to establish a technical committee specialized in forensics to determine the age of children who have been sentenced to death.

- Does the Government of Yemen have an estimate figure on the amount of minors that might be on death row?
- As stated in the national report, there is not an article in Yemeni law authorising the imposition of a death sentence on juveniles; However, is there one forbidding it?