

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MALTA – ADD.2

NORWAY

- The Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture recommended in 2011 that measures should be taken to improve the conditions for detained foreign nationals under the Immigration Act. The UNHCR recently shared a position paper on the detention of asylum-seekers in Malta with the Maltese Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security in Malta, giving a detailed analysis of the situation. UNHCR has also indicated it will present a set of specific proposals for improvements to the asylum system. Norway is well aware that the immigration level is a challenging problem for the Maltese Government and we did receive 31 asylum seekers from Malta last year under the framework of the European Union's Reallocation Project for Malta. Could you elaborate on the status with regard to the CPT Report's recommendations and give us the point of view of the Maltese Government on the findings presented in the UNHCR Position Paper?
- What does Malta do to ensure that the conditions in detention centers meet international standards, including to avoid overcrowding?
- While Norway commend the Maltese Government for their improvements in processing time of asylum applications, Norway welcomes more information on why the Maltese Government does not provide free legal representation, in particular for unaccompanied migrant children under 18 years old.
- At the UPR in 2009 the Maltese delegation referred to a move towards the concept of a correctional facility as a place of reform and therapy rather than of punishment. Nevertheless, we have seen reports raising concerns over the conditions at the Corradino Correctional Facility after 2009. What is the status of the reform of the prison facilities today?
- Malta has received a number of judgments from the European Court of Human Rights concerning the right to property and right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions. Many of these cases are still under supervision by the committee of Ministers in the Council of Europe, due to the lack of full implementation. How does Malta plan to implement these judgments in order to fulfill its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights?

SLOVENIA

- In regard to issue of reproductive rights, we note the position expressed by Malta during its first UPR review. Did Maltese authorities undertake reviewing its legislation with regard to exceptions that should be made to the general prohibition in cases of rape, incest and therapeutic abortion? What actions did Malta undertake to

include sexual and reproductive issues in the field of education, social welfare and health care?

SPAIN

- What steps is the government of Malta taking to further improve the living conditions at the Corradino Correctional Facility?