

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO PORTUGAL

GERMANY

- In light of concerns that Portugal is a destination, transit and source country for human trafficking, which steps have been taken to combat trafficking in persons more effectively? As noted by the Committee against Torture, there have been very few prosecutions of offenders. Does Portugal plan to allocate more resources to the active investigation and prosecution of this kind of criminal act?
- In 2011, Portugal launched a strategy for the inclusion of Roma communities. Was there a notable reduction in discrimination and stigma as a result of the strategy? How have living conditions and access to social services, particularly to education and adequate housing, improved since then?
- With regard to the judicial reform recently initiated by Portugal, does the reform also aim at reducing pretrial detention time as recommended by the Human Rights Committee? Which other measures is Portugal proposing to improve judicial efficiency and until when does Portugal intend to implement these measures?

MEXICO

- How is the use of electrical discharge weapons by State security forces both prior and after detention regulated?
- How is the participation of women in decision-making positions within the public sector being promoted?
- What mechanisms exist in order to ensure that the principle of “equal work, equal pay”, which is enshrined in Portuguese law, is respected in the practice and what channels are provided for complaints to be submitted?

NETHERLANDS

- Can the government give an indication whether the implementation of the Action Plan is on track and whether additional measures are needed?
- What can be done to change a culture in which domestic violence is often not reported?
- Is Portugal planning any measures in addition to the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities 2013-2020 in order to ensure equal access to public services by migrants and members of Roma communities?

- Can the government indicate what it will do to prevent these instances from occurring and what can be done to expedite the judicial processes?
- Is the Government of Portugal planning to fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute, by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the ICC?

NORWAY

- In light of the current economic and financial crisis and the tightened access to funding for NGOs, how does Portugal plan to ensure that civil society can continue to develop its role as a corrective to the government in matters relating to human rights?
- Given that plans to build new prisons have been put on hold, how does Portugal intend to alleviate the capacity pressure in its prisons?
- Due to slow legal processes, Portugal has received a large number of judgments from the European Court of Human Rights concerning the right to a fair trial and effective remedies. How does Portugal plan to implement these judgments in order to fulfil its obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights?

SLOVENIA

- We note that with regard to combating violence against women Portugal is focusing on the issue of violence against elderly women. We would be interested in the measures Portugal is putting to address the protection of elderly women against violence.

UNITED KINGDOM

- Could you please provide further information about Portugal's priorities as candidate for Human Rights Council membership for the years 2015-2017.
- To what extent is the Government of Portugal considering fully aligning its national legislation with the Rome Statute, through the incorporation of provisions to fully and promptly cooperate with the International Criminal Court (ICC)? To what extent does existing legislation address cooperation with the ICC?
- What is the Government of Portugal's assessment of the effectiveness of measures taken to reduce social acceptance of domestic and gender-based violence? How does the

Government of Portugal intend to continue to work and to what extent does it intend to expand such measures?

- Please could you provide further information on the Government of Portugal's measures to promote inclusive education and social integration of children from fragile socio-economic backgrounds, including the descendants of immigrants.