

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO HONDURAS

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Honduras considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under the human rights conventions to which it is already a State party?
- A considerable number of reports from Honduras to the treaty bodies are overdue. What measures has Honduras taken to remedy this?
- Which concrete steps are the authorities taking to strengthen and guarantee the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the judiciary, including by adopting safeguards to prevent irregular dismissals and appointments of judges?
- Will the government of Honduras take the necessary measures to guarantee due diligence in investigating, prosecuting and punishing perpetrators of violence against women and thus avoid an environment of impunity?
- Has the Government of Honduras considered implementing the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression to refer all cases involving violence directed at journalists, social communicators or human rights defenders immediately to the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Human Rights and that a mechanism for the protection of those groups be created.

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Which specific measures have been taken to ensure prevention and effective investigation and prosecution of cases of human rights violations by members of security forces and tackle the culture of impunity for abuses and violations of human rights, including all forms of attacks against human rights defenders? Could the Government provide more details on the draft law to protect human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials (adoption and implementation timeline, involvement of civil society in the drafting phase etc.)?
- What measures have been adopted to prevent, effectively investigate and prosecute violence against women, including rape, domestic violence and sexual harassment? Do they include any public awareness raising campaigns to eliminate its societal acceptability?
- How does the Government strengthen the independence of the judicial system?
- What measures have been adopted to strengthen assistance available to victims of human trafficking?

GERMANY

- Whilst acknowledging the progress the government of Honduras has made in combatting violence and impunity, Germany would like to encourage the Government

of Honduras to dedicate more resources to these fundamental issues and would like to learn about on-going efforts in this regard.

- Germany is concerned about reports of child abuse, especially sexual abuse and domestic violence. Germany would like to learn about national awareness programs and strategic protection systems, including their funding.
- Following its first UPR review, Honduras took some legal steps to support victims of sexual and gender based violence, trafficking and sexual exploitation. Nonetheless, there is a lack of concrete support programs. Germany would be interested in learning about practical protection and support systems.

NETHERLANDS

- **LGBT community**

What measures will the government of Honduras take to ensure that members of the LGBT community can live, work and express their identity freely, without fear for persecution, threats or violent attacks because of their sexual orientation or gender identity?

- **Human rights defenders:**

What measures will the government of Honduras take to protect human rights defenders from violence and address the impunity for crimes against human rights defenders, including defenders of women's rights and defenders of rights of indigenous populations? How will the government of Honduras specifically ensure the protection of women human rights defenders, as they face a double threat as women and as human rights defenders, as was also noted in the preliminary findings of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights after their visit to Honduras in December 2014?

- **Social Conflicts in relation to large projects:**

Which measures will the government of Honduras take to ensure that the rights of local and indigenous populations are respected in the development of large infrastructural programs including ensuring that the proper consultation processes are carried out before granting concessions?

NORWAY

- What are the specific steps taken by the Honduran State to implement each of the recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the alternative Truth Commission?
- What measures is the Honduran State taking to protect human rights defenders in the country and to enable them to carry out their work in safe and secure conditions?

What are the specific steps taken by the Honduran State to implement each of the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on HRDs in her 2012 report?

- What are the specific steps taken by the Honduran State to implement each of the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in 2013? The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) reported that it had recorded 23 killings of journalists or media professionals between 2008 and 2013. What are the measures taken to investigate and punish the perpetrators of the killings of journalists? How many perpetrators have been convicted?
- What are the measures taken to ensure the full independence of the judiciary?
- What are the specific steps planned in order to demilitarize the Honduran society and return to a model where citizen security is managed exclusively by civilian police forces?
- What measures have the Honduran State taken to prevent gender-based violence and combat impunity and the lack of access to justice for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault?

SLOVENIA

- We welcome the inclusion of the crime of femicide in the Criminal Code. What measures are being taken to ensure that immediate, independent, transparent and thorough investigations are conducted in case of the crime of femicide?
- We would be interested to learn what policies and programmes are carried out for the protection of human rights defenders in the absence of a bill on the protection of human rights defenders.

SWEDEN

- What measures is the Government of Honduras taking to protect human rights defenders and to enable them to carry out their work in safe and secure conditions and how will the Government ensure full enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression?
- What concrete steps have been taken to ensure sufficient resources to combating violence against women and will Honduras consider decriminalizing abortion in some cases, in order to guarantee the fundamental rights to the health and lives of women?

SWITZERLAND

- **Women's rights:**
 - In order to tackle impunity for acts of violence against women, does Honduras plan to strengthen the *Fiscalia Especial de la Mujer* ?
 - Does Honduras plan to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women?
- **Business and human rights:**
 - How does Honduras protect the human rights of all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction with regard to the impacts of extractive companies, in particular environmental damages, including water pollution, and its negative effects on the health situation of the local population?
 - Does Honduras plan to develop a national action plan to implement The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights?
- **Children's rights:**
 - What is Honduras' reaction to the recent concerns expressed by the former UN Special Rapporteur Ms Najat Maalla M'jid, regarding the strong involvement of military officers in the education of vulnerable children and young people, within the program "guardianes de la patria"?
- **Security:**
 - What measures is Honduras taking to reform the security sector and to increase community participation in policing activities and community-based public safety programmes?
 - What measures is Honduras taking to ensure internal discipline and external control as well as effective supervision of the military police, in order to prevent human rights violations, and to guarantee access to an independent judicial body for civil victims?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- What is the Government of Honduras doing to tackle impunity and ensure the effective implementation of the Law on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Communicators and Justice Officials?
- What steps will the Government of Honduras take to prevent and investigate cases of violence against women and girls, and how will the Government ensure that perpetrators of gender based crimes are brought to justice?
- How will the Government of Honduras ensure the effective implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples to consultation and free, prior and informed consent?
- What action is the Government of Honduras taking to ensure that journalists and civil society organisations are not unduly criminalized or defamed as a result of their work in defence of human rights and freedom of expression?

- What steps has the Government of Honduras taken to guarantee respect for human rights amongst security forces and, specifically, the military police?