

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES (THIRD BATCH)

CZECHIA

- What steps is the Government planning to take to create a free and enabling environment for civil society representatives, human rights defenders, trade unions and journalists and to effectively prevent and eliminate any harassment, threats or violence against them, including the effective investigation of murders of journalists?
- How is the Government addressing the allegations of extrajudicial killings related to the fight against illegal drugs? What steps does the Government plan to take in order to investigate these unlawful killings, ensure accountability for their perpetrators and justice for their victims and their families?
- Does the Government envisage any measure against incitement to violence in the context of the state-sponsored campaign against illegal drugs? What measures other than restrictions and police operations does the Government undertake to prevent the abuse and dissemination of illegal drugs?
- Can the Government provide more information on its reported intention to reinstate the capital punishment in the Philippines in relation to the country's ratification in 2007 of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR?
- Can the Government provide more information on its intention to lower the age of criminal responsibility of children to the age of 9?
- Can the Government provide more information about the case of and charges against Senator Leila de Lima?

GERMANY

- In the context of the fight against illegal drugs more than 7000 extrajudicial killings have been reported since June 2016. What concrete measures are the Philippines taking to ensure the effective prevention and prompt investigation of all extrajudicial killings as well as the prosecution of alleged perpetrators?

When will the Philippines start to continuously and publicly provide statistics with data from credible sources on killings and investigations?

How many investigations of these extrajudicial killings have already been launched and how many have led to a formal prosecution and sanctions?

- Also in consequence to the fight against illegal drugs, the conditions in detention facilities have worsened and their maximum occupancy often has been exceeded substantially. What measures is the government taking to ensure humane conditions in prisons and to provide medical services to drug-addicted detainees?

Will the Philippines consider replacing pretrial detention with non-custodial measures in line with the 2016 UNCAT recommendations?

- The Philippines are discussing to reinstate the death penalty, which would constitute a breach of its commitments under the second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR. Will the Philippines reconsider the reinstatement of the death penalty?
- The Philippine Congress is currently discussing a bill aiming to lower the age of criminal responsibility to 9 years, which would be a direct breach of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Will the Philippines reconsider the lowering of the age of criminal responsibility?
- Even though the Philippines have adopted an act on enforced or involuntary disappearance (Republic Act No. 10353 of 2012), this issue remains a concern, as the law is not applied to crimes of continuance committed before 2012. What concrete measures is the government taking to effectively implement this national law and to ensure the impartial investigation and prosecution of enforced disappearances?

NORWAY

- What is the Philippine Government doing in order to address impunity and ensure that the right to due process and a fair trial is guaranteed to all people?
- With the recent increase in the number of prisoners in the Philippines, what kind of measures have been taken to ensure that the condition of prisons and detention centers meet international humanitarian standards and that the rights of the inmates are respected?
- What are the strategies of the Philippine Government to approach domestic violence and to establish a supportive environment for women and children within the judicial system?

SLOVENIA

- What measures does the government intend to take to ensure that families of the victims of extrajudicial killings have access to remedies, including rehabilitation?
- Referring to the recommendation of the Human Rights Committee to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, we would be interested to hear, if the government has already taken any steps to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that would cover all forms of discrimination?
- The Anti-Violence against Women Act focuses mainly on domestic violence by intimate partners. Could you also explain which national laws complement the Anti-Violence against Women Act by protecting women also from other forms of violence, and in particular sexual violence?