

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) (FIRST BATCH)

BELGIUM

- Belgium welcomes the United Arab Emirates' accession last year to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children. Is the Government of the United Arab Emirates also considering ratifying the Optional Protocol to the same Convention on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict as well as the two core international human rights treaties, i.e. the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights?
- During the previous UPR, the United Arab Emirates accepted the recommendation to cooperate with the special procedures and to accept visits currently pending by the special rapporteurs. Since then, the special rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers has visited the country. Is the Government considering to accept more requests currently pending by other special rapporteurs?
- As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium would like to know which steps the Government has taken to ensure respect for the minimum standards when applying the death penalty. In the same regard, what has the Government done to safeguard respect for article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child? Is the Government considering to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
- The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with serious concern that the Federal Supreme Court had issued a ruling in 2010 upholding the right of men to chastise their wives and children. Is the Government considering to repeal article 53 of the Penal Code, which authorizes this right? Does the Government intend to enact comprehensive legislation on violence against women?
- Which steps is the United Arab Emirates considering to take to ensure the right to freedom of opinion and expression of human rights defenders? How will the Government ensure that they can exercise their legitimate work in a secure environment, free from intimidation or harassment?

SWEDEN

- Sweden would like to ask the Government of the United Arab Emirates what measures it is taking to ensure that individuals can defend and promote human rights without risking harassment, intimidation, reprisals, threats, arrest or detention.

- How is the Government of the United Arab Emirates ensuring that individuals' constitutional right to freedom of expression is not violated?
- What measures is the Government of the United Arab Emirates taking to ensure full implementation of recently updated legislation on migrant workers' rights?
- Could the Government of the United Arab Emirates please elaborate on what steps are being taken to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights of all women within its jurisdiction and in particular what the Government is doing to address and combat domestic violence and other abuses?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

- How many people stand convicted of capital offences in the UAE? For each person, what is their name, age, nationality and date of arrest, and what is the offence for which they have been convicted?
- What steps is the UAE actively taking to ensure that all persons awaiting and undergoing trial in the UAE enjoy due process rights pursuant to (i) UAE domestic legislation, and (ii) the Arab Charter on Human Rights?
- Will the UAE adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for the UN Treaty Body elections?
- What steps is the UAE actively taking towards the promotion of freedom of expression?
- Will the UAE endorse the UK's Call to Action to End Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?