

## ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO BANGLADESH-ADD 1

### **MONTENEGRO**

- Question: What methods are used to investigate and prosecute extrajudicial killings and claims of torture and whether Bangladesh plans to accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for a country?
- Question: What efforts are being conducted to address problems of child labor through the National Child Labor Elimination Policy?

### **NORWAY**

- The Government of Bangladesh has taken commendable measures to promote the rights of women and increase their participation in society. In this regard we note with concern the increase in voices calling for changes in stark contrast to the Government's policy on women's rights. As for the *Women Policy*, we would appreciate more information on timelines and targets for its implementation, and how this will be monitored by the Government.
- The National Report submitted by the Government of Bangladesh mentions that a provision has been made for the establishment of an Ombudsman for children (para.90). What is the timeframe for the establishment of such a mandate? What would be its functions and resource allocation?
- While we welcome the adoption of the Right to Information Act (RIA) and the establishment of the Information Commission (IC), we would like to know which steps the Government of Bangladesh is taking in order to make the Act known to its citizens. Further, as pointed out in para.17 of the National Report, the IC has a mandate to impose sanctions and to take measures to ensure that the RIA is complied with. Could you please elaborate on how this mandate has been followed up so far, including examples of sanctions applied?
- We appreciate the importance expressed by the Government to the implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord. What measures have been taken to amend the Land Commission Act and to speed up land reform? Which steps will the Government of Bangladesh take to investigate credible reports of increasing violence against women in the CHT, especially regarding sexual assaults? What is being done in order to put an end to such violent acts?

### **LIECHTENSTEIN**

- While commending the Bangladesh's efforts to ensure accountability for grave crimes committed during its past, Liechtenstein is concerned about persistent reports of due

process violations and allegations of partiality in the trials at the International Crimes Tribunal.

- What steps is Bangladesh taking to ensure the highest rule of law and human rights standards are being met when trying individuals for crimes under international law?
- What steps has Bangladesh taken to ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute?

## **SLOVENIA**

- We note with appreciation that Bangladesh ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. We would be interested to hear about further plans for the implementation of the Rome Statute into national law and for the accession to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.
- The Hazaribagh neighbourhood of Dhaka is said to be one of the most polluted urban sites in the world. According to reliable reports, the leather tanneries in Hazaribagh discharge about 22 thousand cubic metres of untreated effluent, containing chromium, sulphur, ammonium and other chemicals, into the Buriganga river, each day. All this has a negative impact on health of the local residents, including poor families living in Hazaribagh slums. What measures does the Government intend to undertake for the improvement of this situation?
- Workers in Hazaribagh tanneries, among other, suffer from respiratory problems and skin diseases like fungal infections, contact dermatitis, scabies, and urticaria. Despite working with some chemicals that are actual or potential human carcinogens, many workers complain that their tannery do not supply protective equipment such as gloves, masks, boots and aprons, or supply it in insufficient quantities. Some tanneries deny workers sick leave when they fall ill or compensation when they are injured while performing their duties. What measures does the Government intend to undertake to enforce compliance by all tanneries in Hazaribagh with the provisions of the Labour Act (2006) and to ensure that all tanneries in Bangladesh have an environmental clearance certificate for industrial units categorized as 'red' (i.e. heavily polluting)?

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

- Can you inform us on progress with regard to Bangladesh's accession to 1951 Refugee Convention and to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
- Could the Government of Bangladesh provide information on measures undertaken to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of stateless Rohingya persons, to improve the

situation of the Rohingya refugees and to finalize its refugee policy and take measures to reinstate the resettlement programme?

- How successful are investigations of violent acts committed against journalists? Is the Government of Bangladesh succeeding in bringing perpetrators of these acts to justice?
- What measures will the Government of Bangladesh take in order to raise public awareness of human rights issues and their protection? Does it consider launching any specific educational program of that kind aimed particularly on training members of armed forces?
- What measures will be taken to ensure the fair trials to all defendants before the recently established Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal for crimes against humanity during the Liberation War of 1971?