

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO GABON

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Which concrete legislative and other measures has Gabon already adopted or is preparing to guarantee persons of indigenous origin their rights, in particular protection against discrimination and their access to public services, especially health care and education?
- How is ensured protection of freedom of expression and independence of journalists? What measures have been adopted against censorship or harassment of journalists?
- How is ensured protection of girls against early or forced marriage? Does the Government consider strengthening of the rule of 18 years being the minimum legal age for marriage of girls? (According to our information, it is currently possible for a girl under 18 years of age to marry with the consent of her parents.)

GERMANY

- Which legislative measures have been taken to put an end to polygamy?
- What is the outcome of the campaign lead by First Lady Sylvia Valentin against the practice of so-called “traditional marriages?”

NETHERLANDS

- According to the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, it was difficult to obtain information on domestic violence against women, including marital rape, throughout Gabon. It seems like discussing rape remains taboo and women often opt not to report rape out of fear, shame, or submission. Does the government have any plans on awareness raising on this particular topic?

NORWAY

- In the previous round of the UPR Gabon was recommended to accelerate the progress of legal reforms to eliminate discriminatory provisions, especially from the civil and criminal codes, and to increase efforts to amend legislation regarding gender equality in accordance with Gabon's international obligations, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Could you please elaborate on any concrete steps taken in this regard?
- To what extent has Gabon brought legislation in line with article 19 of ICCPR by doing away with reported censorship and penalties against organs of the

press and ensuring that journalists may safely exercise their functions, as recommended in the previous round of the UPR?

- What is Gabon doing to minimize and hopefully end the reported use of its borders and cities as a transit point for human trafficking, especially in relation to minors, and as recommended in the previous UPR session to bring the criminalization of child trafficking in line with international standards?

SLOVENIA

- In 2010 the members of the two chambers of Gabonese Parliament had, in cooperation with UNPF, organized a march to promote and defend women's rights and had signed a declaration solemnly committing themselves to respect and promote those rights. What steps have been taken to respect and promote women's rights after these events in 2010?

SPAIN

- ¿Qué medidas lleva a cabo el Gobierno para hacer efectivo el derecho a la educación y la salud?