

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO GUATEMALA

CZECH REPUBLIC

- What steps have been taken to raise awareness of the important role of human rights defenders, to protect them and to ensure that any violence against them is effectively investigated and punished? Have civil society groups been involved in this process?
- What steps have been taken to ensure sufficient resources, in particular financial and personal, for the fight against femicide and more generally violence against women? How is ensured adequate gender-sensitive training of personnel involved in its investigation and prosecution and to those assisting victims of these crimes?
- What steps has Guatemala taken to prevent systematically torture, and to strengthen effectiveness of investigation and prosecution of this crime? In what timeframe does Guatemala intend to bring the definition of torture in its national legislation in compliance with that in the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)?

IRELAND

- The UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders has reported increased levels of violence against human rights defenders. Since Guatemala's first Universal Periodic Review, could Guatemala advise on what steps the government of Guatemala has taken to ensure the protection of human rights defenders?
- Ireland welcomes the adoption of the Law against Femicide and Other Forms of Violence against Women in Guatemala. However, Ireland notes that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in January 2012 reported continuing high levels of gender based violence in Guatemala . Could Guatemala outline what efforts are being made to investigate allegations of gender based violence and to bring those responsible to justice? Can Guatemala also indicate what resources are, or will be, made available in this regard?

FINLAND

- Could you elaborate on the measures taken to protect the safety and the rights of human rights defenders, especially those defending the rights of persons and groups in vulnerable position, such as indigenous peoples?

NETHERLANDS

- The Netherlands congratulates Guatemala for the adoption of the law against femicide. What does the government plan to do to increase the allocation of funds to implement the law and to improve the coordination between public policies and strategic plans.
- The Netherlands is concerned about the use of children in hazardous situations and subjected to labour exploitation. What steps is the state of Guatemala taking to adopt a comprehensive and holistic approach in line with international standards and to redefine the minimum age for admission to employment so that it corresponds to the age at which compulsory education ends as recommended by the committee of the rights of the child?
- During its last UPR Guatemala accepted the recommendation on establishing an action plan for Human rights. Could Guatemala inform the council what has been done to date to live up to its obligations assumed through the 1993 Vienna Declaration and its Plan of Action and sum up some concrete results in this regard?
- The Netherlands notes with satisfaction the establishment of human rights units in the public prosecutor's office and in other state institutions. Could Guatemala inform the council about concrete results following the establishment and coordination of these various human rights units and elaborate on the state of play of the integral plan for security and justice?
- The Netherlands appreciates the various endorsements made by Guatemala of the work of CICIG and recognizes the increased cooperation of the national judiciary with CICIG. What plans does the government have to ensure the separation of administrative and judiciary functions to complement progress made?

NORWAY

- In its previous UPR, Guatemala accepted the following recommendation from Norway: "Take steps to ensure a reduction in the attacks on human rights defenders and to bring the perpetrators of such attacks to justice." What concrete steps have been taken by the Government in this regard and what have been the concrete results of these steps?
- Guatemala also accepted a recommendation from Norway to reform the law on radio communication in order to guarantee the proper and free functioning of local radios. Could you please elaborate on what measures the Government has taken to fulfill this recommendation? What are the main obstacles to allowing community radios to obtain radio frequencies?
- Norway is concerned about the current situation of discrimination and violence in Guatemala against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transsexuals (LGBT) due to their sexual orientation. Which steps are being taken to protect

and promote the universal human rights of all persons in Guatemala regardless of their sexual orientation and identity?

- Does the Guatemalan government plan to publicly announce that it recognizes and respects all persons regardless of their sexual orientation and identity?
- According to the World Food Programme malnutrition affects half of all children in Guatemala[1]. This is the highest number in the region and the fourth highest in the world. Which steps does Guatemala plan to take to secure every child's right to sufficient nutrition?
- Will Guatemala consider to conduct a mid-term review of the progress on the UPR recommendations, where information regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations is distributed freely to allow the comments and observation from civil society and States?

SLOVENIA

- What further steps will the government take to guarantee a system of legal interpreters and bilingual counsel and court officials in all parts of the country?
- What measures has the government taken to prevent the negative impact of cyanide used to extract gold on the exposed communities at risk?
- What is the government of Guatemala doing to fulfill its obligation under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other treaties to protect children from all corporal punishment in law as well as in practice?
- How did the government of Guatemala follow up on the CEDAW recommendation to ensure that indigenous women have full access to bilingual education, health services and credit facilities and to fully participate in decision making processes (UPR 2008, Recommendation Nr. 15 - Slovenia)?