

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GERMANY

- In 2008 the Special Rapporteur on racism and the independent expert on minority issues stressed in their report that there is a profound problem of racism and discrimination generally affecting black Dominicans and Dominicans of Haitian descent.
- There are reports by NGOs about widespread problems regarding statelessness and naturalization, in particular regarding the application of the 2004 General Law on Migration to those who were born prior to its adoption.
- Germany would like to know which measures are being undertaken to reduce the discriminatory impact of the laws on migration and civil status.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Could you please confirm if you have a national human rights institution in the Dominican Republic and if it is in compliance with the Paris principles? If not, we would be grateful for information about the Government's plans for introducing such a body?
- Could you please elaborate further on the role civil society played in the preparation of your national report for this process?
- What plans does the Government have to sign, ratify and implement the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and when will the State ratify and implement the Convention against Torture?
- The UK welcomes measures taken by the government in relation to violence against women and trafficking of women. We would further appreciate information on legislation to protect women and children from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, as well as sexual exploitation. In particular, is there a system to ensure that women are provided with support when reporting cases and seeking medical attention?
- What steps has the government taken to increase the number of children in full time education and to tackle the risks of children suffering abuse, sexual exploitation and child labour?
- The UK welcomes the text contained in the new Constitution on anti-discrimination. We would further welcome information on the Government's position on the equal rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals, your plans to change the law to increase equality and allow same-sex partnerships, and what steps you might take to tackle incidences of violence against these groups and promote further inclusion?

- Could you describe how the new Constitution hopes to combat racism and racial discrimination in the Dominican Republic, in particular towards Haitian migrants and Dominicans of Haitian descent? What plans does the government have for regularising the large number of these groups within the country?
- We would be grateful to hear more about how the Dominican Republic plans to reduce the disparity of service in areas such as administrative requirements, education, housing, healthcare and fair law enforcement/investigation for Haitian/Dominicans of Haitian descent communities
- Would you please tell us how the Government of the Dominican Republic tackles and investigates allegations of ill-treatment, abuse of force or extra-judicial killings by security forces?
