

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO JAPAN

GERMANY

- What is the current state of the internal study panel in the Ministry of Justice, dealing with questions of the death penalty? Will there be any recommendations forthcoming?
- How does the Japanese government make sure that the internal rules for interrogation in police stations are met? What are the sanctions in case they are broken?

NETHERLANDS

- The Netherlands commends the government of Japan for the time-goal based “Third Basic Plan for Gender Equality”. Can the government provide statistical information on its implementation regarding initiatives to expand women’s participation in the workplace and to prevent violence against women?
- How does the government of Japan believe the independence of a National Human Rights Institution can be safeguarded when it is organized as part of and fully funded by the Ministry of Justice, especially in light of its comments in its national report which suggest that it believes the protection of human rights is already sufficiently safeguarded under the existing system through the Legal Affairs Bureaus under the aegis of the same Ministry of Justice?
- Welcoming the initiatives that have been undertaken by the Japanese government on the issue of audio-visual recording of interrogations of suspects in (pre-) detention, the procedure is not yet mandatory. When will the government of Japan make a decision to make the audio-visual recordings of interrogations of suspects in (pre-) detention, including legislation regarding proper interrogation procedures, mandatory?
- On the subject of the military sex slave system, which to this day remains an issue not only between countries concerned, but also in domestic politics in Japan, it has come to our attention that a reference to this system, which was introduced into textbooks for school children only in the late nineties of last century, cannot be found in 2012, doing away with an important incentive to raise proper awareness among young people of an important aspect of the atrocities committed during the Second World War in conjunction with a discussion of the relevant fundamental human rights involved and still valid today. What measures is the Japanese government taking to ensure that future generations continue to be informed of the military sex slavery system, with a view to educating them on the respect for fundamental human rights?

SPAIN

- ¿Cuáles son los planes de Japón para llevar a cabo el compromiso adquirido con respecto a la recomendación relativa al establecimiento de una institución nacional independiente de defensa de los derechos humanos?