

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO TUVALU- ADDENDUM

DENMARK

- Reliable reports indicate [widespread] use of torture and ill treatment. What further steps are you taking to prevent and eliminate torture? When do you intend to ratify OPCAT?”

GERMANY

- The Federal Republic of Germany thanks the GoT for its problem-oriented approach in its National Report and recognizes, the efforts taken regarding the promotion of human rights. As you stated yourself in the National Report, women’s rights are not adequately protected by Tuvaluan domestic law. What kind of amendments or methods do you plan to undertake to strengthen women’s rights? And in this regard, is there an intention to amend the catalogue against discrimination in the Bill of Rights by the feature of gender?

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 63 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. While no requests have been made by special procedures mandate holders to visit Tuvalu – would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures in the future?

NETHERLANDS

- Although the law in Tuvalu mentions explicitly that discrimination on the basis of race, colour or place of origin is prohibited, it does not mention that discrimination on the basis of gender is prohibited. It is known that the position of women is improving in Tuvalu, but is the Government of Tuvalu considering to change the law?
- Is the Government considering to collect data about domestic violence against women and act accordingly?
- The government of Tuvalu is recommended for having a law providing for granting asylum, however the Government did not put a system in place for the actual implementation of this law. Will the Government consider such as system?
- Although the Government attaches importance to transparency, the laws against corruption seem to be rather weak and the Auditor's Office which oversees Government expenditure is underfunded. Does the Government envisage actions to improve transparency? Are there contacts with Transparency International and potential donors assisting the Government?

SWEDEN

- Tuvalu has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. However, the Tuvalu constitutional bill of rights does not make any reference to women's rights and there is no law prohibiting domestic violence. Furthermore, marital rape is not considered a crime. Could the government elaborate on its plans to improving women's rights in accordance with CEDAW? What measures does the government foresee toward ensuring full gender equality, including steps to combat violence against women and marital rape?
