

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO PAKISTAN ADD.1**

### **MEXICO**

- ¿Qué medidas ha ejecutado el gobierno paquistaní para coadyuvar en la plena instrumentación de la normatividad recientemente adoptada para combatir la violencia contra las mujeres, como la enmienda de 2011 del Código Penal, la ley sobre el control de sustancias ácidas y la prevención del delito de lesiones con ácido, la ley sobre el acoso sexual y el proyecto de ley sobre la violencia doméstica?
- ¿Qué acciones concretas ha llevado a cabo el gobierno paquistaní para garantizar que las fuerzas del orden mantengan un alto nivel de conducta profesional y respeto a los derechos humanos en la lucha contra el terrorismo?
- ¿Qué avances y desafíos se registran en el proceso de implementación de la Convención contra la Tortura, recientemente ratificada por el Estado paquistaní (junio 2010)?

### **NETHERLANDS**

- In 2008 the Netherlands recommended to Pakistan to adjust its national laws to the international obligations undertaken. This recommendation was accepted. Subsequently Pakistan has ratified an additional number of international instruments. The national report mentions an inter-ministerial process for the implementation. How has implementation at the provincial level been secured? Does the implementation include the promulgation of new laws or changes to existing laws? Which draft-laws are now under preparation?
- According to paragraph 42 of the Compilation Report the so-called Blasphemy Law may be used in a discriminatory manner against religious minority groups. Par. 76 of Pakistan's report indicates it has been misused in the past. The Netherlands would therefore welcome Pakistan's views on Ambassador Sherry Rehman's original proposal for amending the Blasphemy Law.
- Are governmental policies to restrict freedom of opinion on the internet subject to judicial scrutiny? What is the record of Pakistan's legal system applying the limitative ICCPR criteria for restriction of freedom of opinion on the internet?
- Is there a government programme to reinstate girls to their rights in cases of abduction, forced marriage and forced conversion?

## SWEDEN

- Pakistan's constitution states that "All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law and that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex alone". Since the Universal Periodic Review of Pakistan in 2008, Pakistan has adopted a number of important laws designed to protect women and girls from violence and discrimination and the Parliament recently strengthened the National Commission on the Status of Women. These are all encouraging signs.
- However, many women and girls face severe restrictions and are not entitled to human rights and fundamental freedoms, they continue to face serious discrimination and violence in their home, workplace, public life as well as in the judicial system. Domestic violence, rape, "honour killings", acid attacks and forced marriages remain serious problems in Pakistan. According to civil society organizations 943 cases of honour killings were reported only during 2011. Effective implementation of current laws is lacking on federal as well as provincial level as well as strong, credible and financially adept institutions to monitor and report on the situation, particularly in rural areas.
- Pakistan is amongst the countries with the highest numbers of enforced disappearances worldwide. It is encouraging that the Government of Pakistan invited the *Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances* to conduct a country visit to Pakistan. As the Working Group noted in their preliminary recommendations, enforced disappearances are part of a pattern that includes serious violations of human rights conducted by intelligence and military forces.