

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE CONGO

GERMANY

- Torture is prohibited by the Constitution of 20 January 2002. According to the national report, whenever allegations of torture and death in detention are found to be true, the perpetrators of the acts are punished in compliance with the relevant provisions of criminal law. However, reports indicate that torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment still occur regularly, that investigations on and prosecutions of these crimes remain lacking, and that victims fear reprisals, preventing them from lodging a complaint with the competent courts.
 - What measures has Congo implemented or is it planning to implement to prevent torture? What measures are in place to monitor detention facilities and address complaints by detainees?
- According to Congo's national report, women make up 8.6 per cent of members of parliament and 13 per cent of the Government; they occupy 12 per cent of decision-making positions in the Ministries, 17.3 per cent in the departmental councils and 26 per cent in the municipal councils; in 2011, a total of 36.4 per cent of mayors were women. Gender equality in the Congo is guaranteed by article 8 of the Constitution which ensures that all citizens are equal before the law and prohibits all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on sex.
 - How is the government planning on ensuring gender equality in access to government positions?

NETHERLANDS

- What does the government of Congo undertake to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
- What does the government of Congo undertake to improve the treatment of suspects and prisoners with regard to torture and other cruelties?
- What measures does the government of Congo take to increase literacy among girls in order to further contribute to gender equality?
- Is the government of Congo planning to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the ICC and to investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes effectively before its national courts?

SWEDEN

- What does the government intend to do to ensure that these groups are fully informed of – and capable of exerting – their rights?

- How does the government plan to increase the number of investigations and prosecutions of sexual violence, and ensure that adequate sentences are enforced?