

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MADAGASCAR – ADD.1

GERMANY

- In 2010, a number of recommendations with regard to the rights of women and children were accepted by the Government. Madagascar's Constitution now proclaims equality before the law for all, without distinction as to sex. In addition to the measures mentioned in its report, what legal and practical steps has Madagascar taken or is it planning to take to combat gender-based violence, stereotypes and to promote gender equality? In particular, which concrete measures does the road map against "Molestry" set out in this regard? With regard to the empowerment of women, how many women have been reached so far by the programs mentioned in Madagascar's national report destined to enable women to become financially independent? What do these programs entail?
- Madagascar also accepted the recommendation to adopt effective measures to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment, and to limit the period of time for which people can be held in police custody or pre-trial detention. Is Madagascar planning to implement the recommendation of the Committee Against Torture that it amend its law against torture in order to incorporate a scale of penalties for acts of ill-treatment, and will it amend its Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure to include relevant provisions from the law against torture? What measures are being taken to ensure that living conditions in prisons are brought in line with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners?
- Madagascar is committed to strengthen efforts to fulfil its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to establish an institution to supervise and evaluate the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to continue the education reform in order to ensure free primary education for all girls and boys. What is the timeframe for achieving this goal, and which measures do the interim plan for education and other policy tools foresee to make free primary education a reality for all children without discrimination? Is Madagascar taking measures to raise the age of completion of compulsory schooling so that it coincides with the age of admission to employment or work?

UNITED KINGDOM

- When is Madagascar planning to ratify key human rights instruments it has signed, such the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture, and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty?
- What steps is the Malagasy Government taking to improve the protection of women's rights, including by ratifying the African Union's Maputo Protocol on the Protection of Women and SADC's Protocol on Gender and Development, and by joining the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative?

- Could Madagascar give an update with regard to the Ministry of Justice's joint ten-year plan with the Anti Corruption Office (BIANCO) to fight corruption in the judicial process, setting out when further details will be available, especially concerning anti-corruption measures covering the security forces, the private sector and the civil service?
- There have been reports of alleged extra judicial killings and collective punishment in relation to action taken by security forces against cattle rustlers (Dahalo) in the south of Madagascar. What is the Government doing to investigate these allegations?
- Reports on conditions in Malagasy prisons list alleged torture, long periods of incarceration without trial, widespread malnutrition and poor hygiene. What action is the Malagasy Government taking in response to these reports?