

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO LIBERIA**

### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

- What measures has the Government of Liberia adopted to fight more effectively discrimination against women and prevent and punish effectively sexual and gender-based violence? What measures have been adopted or are being prepared to eliminate the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) and other harmful traditional practices?
- What measures has the Government of Liberia adopted to strengthen the judicial system in order to ensure the respect for due process and lower the high number of pre-trial detainees?
- What measures has the Government adopted to establish a national preventive mechanism according to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) ratified by Liberia in 2004?
- Does the Government of Liberia consider issuing a standing invitation to special procedures of the Human Rights Council?
- What steps have been taken with a view to abolish the death penalty according to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (OP2-ICCPR) Liberia acceded to in 2005?
- Noting a number of overdue national reports on the implementation of international human rights treaties Liberia is a state party to, could the Government provide information on steps to address this reporting backlog as well as on improving the process of incorporation of its international human rights obligations into national legislation?
- We would be interested to learn more about the public consultation process on the revision of Liberia's Constitution. What mechanisms are in place to ensure the constitutional revision is firmly based on human rights? Are there any consultations ongoing or planned with the OHCHR in this regard?

### **GERMANY**

- Following the first UPR review, Liberia established the Independent National Commission of Human Rights (INCHR) in accordance with the Paris Principles. The Commission still lacks an adequate financial and administrative structure, however. Germany would appreciate additional information about the current status of funding. How does the Government of Liberia intend to ensure the independence of the INCHR?
- The Reconciliation Roadmap and the National Human Rights Action plan were launched by Liberia in 2012 and 2013. Germany would like to know what measures Liberia plans to take to guarantee their implementation.

## **NORWAY**

- How are gender based violence and female genital mutilation addressed in the national plan for human rights?
- How will the government work to secure a smooth transition from UNMIL to national responsibility?
- What will the government do to bring more offenders to justice?

## **SWITZERLAND**

- After having ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on 22 September 2004 is the government of Liberia planning to align its national legislation with the Rome Statute?
- Where does Liberia stand with the implementation of the recommendations identified in 2009 by the ‘Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission’?

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

- As part of the Liberian Government’s Investment Plan for Building a Resilient Health System, what steps will be taken to support Ebola survivors and tackle issues around stigmatisation?
- What measures is the Government taking to investigate all alleged serious crimes stemming from the past conflicts, and ensure that those found responsible are held accountable?
- What measures is the Government taking to increase the prosecution and conviction rates for sexual offenders, and to address the root causes of sexual and gender-based violence?
- What steps will the Government take to ensure that domestic legislation fully reflects Liberia’s obligations under the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), including the commitment to abolish the death penalty?
- What steps will the Government take to ensure that the freedom to exercise one’s religion or belief will be protected in the forthcoming constitutional review process?

## **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

- We congratulate Liberia for the positive steps it has taken towards peace and stability following its civil war. Those steps included the appointment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) charged with examining abuses and violations that took place between 1979 and 2003, and making recommendations to ensure that Liberia never again experiences such mass violence. What is the status of the consideration and implementation of the recommendations in the TRC Report?