

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – ADD.3

CHINA

- In its national report, the United States notes that it has taken steps to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and it has designated the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) as a priority among multilateral treaties for ratification. What is the timetable for the United States to eventually ratify and implement the above two Conventions? In addition, will the United States ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, CERD, CAT as well as civil society have repeatedly expressed concerns about excessive use of force by the police and the large number of gun-related deaths and injuries, which disproportionately affected members of racial and ethnic minorities. In its national report, the United States notes that it is taking steps to address the disproportionate percentage of minorities, particularly African-Americans, in the criminal justice system. To what extent have those steps taken effect eliminating violence based on national, ethical or racial elements? How to analyze and address the root causes?
- In its national report, the United States notes that it has made substantial advances to better protect the rights of indigenous peoples domestically. The Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples called for concrete measures to be taken, such as addressing outstanding claims regarding treaty violations or non-consensual takings of traditional lands, interpreting or reinterpreting relevant doctrine, treaties and statutes by the federal courts in the light of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Could the United States elaborate on measures taken in those aspects?
- In 2014, the United States released the report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on CIA interrogation practices. Has any progress been made as follow-up investigations and prosecutions? What measures will be taken to hold those responsible for torture accountable and provide remedies to victims?
- In its national report, the United States reiterates President Obama's commitment to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility. Is there a foreseeable time schedule for the closure? What are the criteria guiding the United States while making decisions on transferring detainees in Guantanamo home or to third countries?

- The Human Rights Committee was concerned about the practice of targeted killings in extraterritorial counter-terrorism operations using unmanned aerial vehicles, and the lack of accountability for the resulting loss of life. Some countries also expressed similar concerns. Will the United States disclose the criteria for drone strikes, including the legal basis for specific attacks? What measures has been taken to protect civilians in specific drone attacks and to track and assess civilian casualties? How to enhance transparency and accountability of such operations?
- The HR Committee was concerned about surveillance of communications in the interests of protecting national security and recommended, inter alia, that the State party ensure that any interference with the right to privacy complied with the principles of legality, proportionality and necessity, regardless of the nationality or location of the individuals whose communications were under direct surveillance. It is also indicated that the United States authorities are intercepting the private communications and other personal electronic data of hundreds of millions people across the globe. Does the United States intend to comply with the above recommendation and effectively safeguards against abuse of surveillance measures to ensure full compliance with relevant international human rights obligations?