

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO PANAMA

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Panama considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under the human rights conventions to which it is already a State party?
- A considerable number of reports from Panama to the treaty bodies are overdue. What measures has Panama taken to remedy this?
- Is the Government of Panama considering the necessary measures to effectively diminish the high levels of violence against women thus implementing regulating Act No. 82, adopted in 2013, that defines femicide as an offense and penalizes violence against women.
- Has the Government of Panama considered implementing the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to adopt a national policy and plans to promote, protect and fulfil the rights of all children?

GERMANY

- The rising sea level is a grave threat to indigenous communities living in Caribbean islands in Guna Yala. Through which measures does the Government intend to protect and – if necessary – resettle these communities?
- Is there any progress with regard to prosecution of members of security forces that have committed human rights violations, e.g. at demonstrations in Colón 2012 or in Chirquí/Bocas del Toro? Have victims been compensated?
- By when will the criminal proceedings reform be presumably implemented in all 10 provinces? What are the Government's plans with regard to upgrading detention facilities?

SLOVENIA

- We note that there has been a significant increase in female participation in education and that more women than men tend to remain in education and graduate. What have been the precipitating factors for these trends and how is this reflected in the gender demographics of the labour market?
- We note some progress in prevention of child labour and the intention of stepping up efforts to eradicate this serious problem. In this respect we are interested to learn if any programs or measures have been envisaged or put in place to increase the annual reduction rate, especially in rural areas?

SWEDEN

- What progress has been made towards prohibiting all corporal punishment of children, as required under the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- Are there any programs in place with the aim to reduce illegal child labour, specifically concerning indigenous children?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- When will the Government of Panama establish the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) against torture and other ill-treatment in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT), ratified by Panama on June 2011?
- What more is the Government of Panama doing to reduce domestic violence against women and what public awareness campaigns are being used to educate the wider population on this issue?
- When will the Government of Panama extend the adversarial criminal justice system to all judicial districts throughout Panama? How is it reducing pre-trial detentions, and what alternative measures is it taking to detention and non-custodial sentences?
- When will the Government of Panama enact a comprehensive anti-discrimination law which prohibits discrimination on all grounds, including racial, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, and disability?
- What is the Government of Panama doing to ensure that the rights of indigenous people are respected by all and that those who contravene those rights are brought to justice?