

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NIGER

DENMARK

- Considering the outcome of the last session of the National Consultative Council (CCN), how do you assess the Government of Niger's ability to move towards abolishment of the death penalty?
- Although Niger can be considered as an abolitionist country in practice (since 1976), what prevents the Government from abolishing the death penalty altogether?
- When will Niger take steps to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture?
- What is the Government of Niger's strategy to assure the respect and implementation of CEDAW, and to lift existing reservations?
- What types of monitoring measures are expected to be implemented?
- How do you assess the challenges faced by Niger in adopting and implementing a Code of personal statute (or family code) for its citizens in 2011?

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 73 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Considering previous cooperation of Niger with special procedures mandate holders (visits of Special Rapporteur on the right to food (27 August - 3 September 2001 and 8-12 July, 2005)) - would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the future?

NETHERLANDS

- **Prohibition of torture**

With reference to paragraph 36 of the national report which details the penalisation under the Criminal Code of "assault and battery and other intentional crimes and misdemeanours", and the remark made in paragraph 3 of the stakeholder report on the absence of a prohibition in the Penal Code of torture, can the Government elaborate on the reasons for the absence of a specific prohibition of torture clause in the Penal Code, also in light of the fact that this kind of treatment is prohibited in the new Constitution? Does the Government intend to introduce a prohibition of torture in its legislation in line with CAT.

- **Abductions**

Concerning the cases of abductions mentioned in paragraph 31 of the stakeholder report, what will the Government do in order to prevent abductions by armed groups in future?

- **Freedom of the press**

In light of concerns expressed in paragraph 27 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraphs 19 and 20 of the stakeholder report on infringements on the freedom of the press, as well as remarks in paragraph 22 of the national report that violations of press freedom have occurred, what how does the Government intend to guarantee that press freedom is upheld?

SWEDEN

- Sweden would like to ask the Government of Niger to elaborate on what measures it is undertaking in order to hold free, fair, and transparent elections before March 2011, in particular with regard to ensuring its citizens' rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association?
- Does the Government of Niger plan to sign and ratify relevant human rights treaties, such as the ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, CRPD, ICERD, CAT and their Optional Protocols?
- Could the Government of Niger elaborate on the status of the death penalty, including if there are any plans to abolish the death penalty de jure?
- Does the Government of Niger plan to ratify and implement into its domestic law the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), as well as its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty?
- Sweden would like to ask the Government of Niger to elaborate on what measures it is undertaking to protect its population from acts of violence committed by the police, the security forces and the military?
- In this context, what steps are taken to effectively end impunity?