

## ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO HAITI

### 2<sup>ND</sup> BATCH

#### **BELGIUM**

Belgium wishes to express strong solidarity with the people of Haiti in the aftermath of hurricane Matthew.

- Is the Government of Haiti considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Is the Government of Haiti considering ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness? What concrete steps have been taken to identify and register persons who are stateless or at risk of statelessness?
- What steps is the Government of Haiti taking to address violence against women and girls? What concrete measures have been taken to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted?
- Is the Government of Haiti considering raising the minimum age of marriage for girls from 15 to 18 years, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child?
- What concrete measures is the Government of Haiti taking to fight impunity for acts of violence against LGBTI persons? Does the Government consider adopting a national awareness campaign to combat stereotypes based on sexual identity, as recommended the Human Rights Committee?

#### **GERMANY**

- Germany is concerned about the upcoming elections. They are central for the political stability of Haiti and a symbol of democracy and the rule of law. The election process should not come at the expense of the Haitian population due to the current situation. **Therefore, Germany would like to ask which steps the Government of Haiti will take to ensure peaceful, free and democratic elections and to increase the turnout.**
- Germany recognizes efforts being made through the implementation of the national Sanitation Campaign that started 2014 and aims at a mind shift in the Haitian population regarding the handling of water issues. **Which concrete steps does a fully implementation of the Campaign contain in the future?**
- Germany is aware of the challenges Haiti is facing regarding stateless people who are not registered or who are at risk of statelessness. **Therefore, Germany would like to know what strategy the Government of Haiti is following to facilitate the access to identity documents for stateless persons who were born in and expelled from the Dominican Republic and who wish to remain in Haiti. When will Haiti ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness?**

#### **SLOVENIA**

- We would be interested to learn whether the Haitian administration has a plan to combat discriminatory gender stereotypes, and what steps it will make to address widespread gender discrimination and pervasive gender-based violence. In line with our recommendation from the first cycle, we would like to know what measures it undertook to ensure accountability for crimes committed in cases of violence against women and sexual violence.

- What measures do the authorities undertake to combat the widespread economic exploitation of children and child domestic labour?
- Due to reports concerning the uncertainty of the availability of running water, Slovenia would like to know how Haiti intends to prioritise the development of infrastructure to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation for all.

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

- What plans do you have to address the rising incidence of violence against women in some of the most overpopulated parts of the country, where policing may be limited?
- What additional training will be given to the police to ensure that the many cases of violence against women are recorded and dealt with appropriately?
- What is being done to address the depoliticisation of the judiciary, absenteeism among judges and court clerks and to develop an appropriately trained justice sector?
- What is being done to alleviate the conditions which prisoners are being kept, including tackling malnutrition and inadequate healthcare, and providing minimum standards of incarceration?
- What work has been done to implement laws on trafficking people, to strengthen facilities for protecting minors, and to criminalise the practice of placing children in domestic service?

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

- There are an estimated 286,000 children who are potentially subject to exploitation and trafficking under the domestic servitude system. What steps is Haiti taking to draft and implement a child protection law, with special protections for child trafficking victims?
- We commend the Haitian National Police's attention to prolonged pretrial detention in Haiti's detention centers. What efforts will the Ministry of Justice undertake to complement the HNP's efforts to further expand programs to reduce the pretrial detention population?
- We commend the government's work to improve disciplinary procedures for police officers found to have committed abuses. Still, a lack of adequate funding has hindered the ability of the Inspector General of the Haitian National Police to properly investigate allegations of police misconduct, which undercuts its credibility as a security force. What steps is the government taking to address police misconduct, including corruption?
- We commend the government for the 2014 Law on Prevention and Repression of Corruption, Haiti's first anti-corruption law, which we believe can strengthen the rule of law in Haiti. We are concerned about the lack of implementation and continued high levels of corruption. It is particularly urgent to ensure that safeguards are in place to avoid diversion of hurricane relief funds and sustain international support. What steps is the government taking to implement the legislation and reduce corruption?
- What steps is the Government of Haiti taking to ensure that the upcoming presidential and legislative elections scheduled for November 20 are peaceful, free and fair and that official contestation procedures are followed?