

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES (FIRST BATCH)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- What measures has the Government of the Philippines put in place to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and the political opposition?
- In light of the Government of the Philippines' intention to lower the age of criminal responsibility, what steps is the Government of the Philippines taking to ensure the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is upheld?
- What steps is the Government of the Philippines taking to ensure that its policy towards narcotic use is informed by internationally accepted standards on health and human rights?
- Will the Government of the Philippines respect their commitment to the ICCPR and its 2nd Optional Protocol and not reintroduce the Death Penalty?
- What measures is the Government of the Philippines putting in place to address trafficking of persons within and outside its borders?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- The Philippine National Police indicated that they completed 922 murder investigations for deaths associated with drug crime between July 2016 and March 2017. How were these crimes investigated and what were the results of the investigations? How many individuals have been criminally or administratively charged as a result of these investigations and what charges have been brought against them?
- When police kill a suspect during an operation, what process exists to investigate the legality of their actions and whether excessive use of force or extrajudicial killings took place?
- What mechanisms are in place to ensure that investigators are independent of the police chain of command they are responsible for investigating and are free from the influence of bribery or intimidation?
- What is the government doing to lessen overcrowding of prisons?
- What steps are the government and judiciary taking to speed up the trial process to ensure that every accused individual enjoys the right to be tried without undue delay, as well as the fair trial guarantees necessary for his or her defense?
- What is the status of the Maguindanao Massacre trial?
- What steps is the government taking to ensure better protection of land rights, particularly for members of indigenous groups?

- What measures are being undertaken to ensure that all aspects of Republic Act 9344, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, are implemented uniformly throughout the country?