

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ETHIOPIA (FIRST BATCH)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- What steps is the Ethiopian Government taking to ensure that there are credible and independent investigations of alleged human rights violations and abuses, as a result of ongoing conflicts in the country?
- How will the Government ensure that processes to deliver justice for victims of human rights violations and abuses committed in the period since 1991, such as the truth and reconciliation commission, are fair and transparent and deliver justice for victims?
- What steps will the Ethiopian Government take to enable opposition participation and inclusion of dual passport holders in the electorate for the forthcoming elections in May 2020?
- We believe that Ethiopia has not carried out the death penalty since 2007, which is welcome - does the Government plan to formalise a memorandum?
- Following the Ethiopian Government's action to update legislation, what other steps are being taken to implement the Call to Action to tackle Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, in accordance with UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7?

PORTUGAL on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRF's

- Could the State-under-review describe its national mechanism or process responsible for coordinating the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the monitoring of progress and impact?
- Has the State-under-review established a dedicated 'national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up' (NMIRF) covering UPR recommendations, but also recommendations/observations generated by the UN human rights Treaty Bodies, the Special Procedures and relevant regional mechanisms, which, *inter alia*, clusters all the above, manages them in national databases, coordinates implementation actions across government, monitors progress and impact, and then streamline reporting procedures back to the UN? If so, could the State-under-review briefly share its experience on creating such mechanism, including challenges faced and lessons learnt, as well as any plans or needs to strengthen the NMIRF in the future?

SWEDEN

- Sweden strongly supports the ongoing reform process in Ethiopia to strengthen democracy and human rights and are pleased to see that important steps like the

revision of the CSO-legislation have already been taken. However, many challenges in view of 2020 elections remain. Sweden would like to ask the Government of Ethiopia if it could elaborate on its road-map in view of the 2020 elections – what steps need to be taken, and when, in order to make the 2020 elections a success?

- Ethiopia is characterized by its religious and ethnic plurality. However, ethnic tensions remain a serious challenge in Ethiopia, particularly on regional and local levels. Sweden would like to ask the Government of Ethiopia how it is working to resolve these ethnic tensions, including by creating structures and institutions for conflict resolution and reconciliation?
- Sweden appreciates the Ethiopian government’s willingness and commitment to reform the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. What is the government doing in concrete terms to ensure the independence and capabilities of the Commission?
- Sweden welcomes the adoption in 2013 of the “National Strategy and Action Plan on Harmful Traditional Practices against Women and Children to combat female genital mutilation, child marriage and abduction” but is concerned that it still suffers from a lack of proper implementation. What is the Government doing to ensure that the plan is properly implemented, monitored and evaluated?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- With the revision of the Charities and Societies Proclamation, what role does the Government envision civil society organisations playing in promoting human rights and ensuring accountability for abuses?
- What is being done to investigate human rights violations and abuses by law enforcement officers and to bring those responsible to justice?
- Is the Government planning to address human rights violations and abuses that occurred under previous administrations?
- Will the Government consider changing its position towards the decriminalisation of consensual same-sex activity between adults?
- What is the Government doing to prevent female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), forced early marriage and other harmful practices against women and girls?
- What is the status of pending labor law reforms? Will reforms include setting a minimum wage and ensuring the freedom of association and peaceful assembly for all workers?
- How is the Government addressing continued reports of child labor in prohibited, dangerous work sectors, particularly construction?

BELGIUM

- Could Ethiopia consider ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance ?
- Is Ethiopia planning to extend a standing invitation to the UN thematic Special Procedures and to respond positively to the outstanding invitations from Special Procedures to visit the country?
- Which measures does Ethiopia intend to take to strengthen its institutional mechanisms for ethnic reconciliation ?
- How will Ethiopia see to the effective implementation of the National Strategy and Action Plan on Harmful Traditional Practices against Women and Children to combat FGM, child marriage and abduction ?
- How will Ethiopia ensure that the planned economic reforms will include the promotion of decent labor conditions ?