

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO OMAN (FIRST BATCH)

LIECHTENSTEIN

- What steps has Oman taken to ratify the Rome Statute in its 2010 version?
- What steps has Oman taken towards the abolition of the death penalty?

GERMANY

- Germany commends the government of Oman's recent decisions to accede to a number of Human Rights Instruments such as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The government of Oman has in the past stated to consider accession to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Could the delegation of Oman elaborate on the current state of this process?
- Germany commends the government of Oman's recent decision to abolish the necessity of a non-objection certificate by the employer for foreign workers who wish to change their jobs. What are current developments with regard to the application of Omani labour legislation to workers in domestic households in Oman?

BELGIUM

- Is the Sultanate of Oman considering ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Second Optional Protocol to this Covenant? Is the government of Oman considering establishing an official moratorium on executions, including for drug-related crimes, with a view to abolishing the death penalty?
- Does the government of Oman intend to withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and to ratify its Optional Protocol?
- Is the government of Oman planning to amend the nationality law as to allow Omani women married to foreigners to transmit the Omani nationality to their children and husband?
- Which follow-up will the government of Oman give to the CERD-Committee's recommendation to extend the application of the Labour Law to domestic workers and prevent abuse from current employers, to amend the Penal Code to criminalize forced labour, to strictly enforce the prohibition of passport confiscation and to ensure regular labour inspections at the workplaces and dormitories of women migrant workers?
- Is the government of Oman considering amending the Civil Associations Act (2000) to create and ensure an enabling environment in which civil society organizations and human rights defenders can freely conduct their activities?

SWITZERLAND

- **Torture:** Switzerland welcomes Oman's recent ratification of the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT). How is Oman planning to implement the UNCAT?
- **Freedom of expression online:** Switzerland took note of the creation of a Cyber Defence Center in Oman. How does Oman ensure that the right to freedom of expression is guaranteed within its Internet governance?
- **Human Trafficking/domestics workers:** Switzerland welcomes the important measures taken by Oman to render its economy, and specifically its labour market, more attractive and competitive. How is Oman planning to implement the abolition of the "no objection" certificate, allowing for the transfer to another employer? What are the main changes Oman foresees in the new labour code and the new domestic workers act? Does Oman plan on taking additional measures to continue the fight against human trafficking?
- **Oman's priorities:** Switzerland notes with appreciation Oman's intention to strengthen and develop the role of specialized national mechanisms to protect human rights. Which fields will Oman prioritize in this regard?