

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO BOTSWANA (FIRST BATCH)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

- What plans does the Government of Botswana have for education programmes and discussions with the general public on LGBT issues, to create the right environment to move towards possible decriminalisation of consensual same sex sexual activities.
- What steps has the Government of Botswana taken to ensure the families of death row inmates are informed before an execution takes place?
- What steps is the government taking to raise public awareness of legislation and policies intended to address high levels of gender based violence?
- What additional resources are being allocated to the Office of the Ombudsman to ensure the National Human Rights Institution is established within that Office and is able to carry out its mandate effectively and comply with the Paris Principles?
- What steps has the Government of Botswana taken in partnership with the Basarwa/San towards agreeing a sustainable solution for managing settlement with the continuation of traditional hunting and gathering cultural practices in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve?

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Botswana considering to ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities or the International Convention for the protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance?
- Is the Government of Botswana considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- The initial reports of Botswana to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the implementation of the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children as well as the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict are overdue. What measures have been taken by the Government of Botswana to remedy this?
- As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium regrets that Botswana - as only country in the SADC region - retains the death penalty in law and in practice. Is Botswana considering to hold public consultations, in a participatory manner together with civil society, about the desirability and long-term effectiveness of the use of the death penalty as a deterrent?

- Can the Government of Botswana provide more information on how the National Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS has been implemented in practice? Are there measures in place to ensure that the current programs promoting access to HIV services are not used as means to target LGBTI persons?

SWEDEN

- Considering the progressive judgements in recent years, including to allow LEGABIBO to officially register as a non-profit organisation and in upholding the rights for persons regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity, is the Government of Botswana considering a review of the Botswana Penal Code Division III, sections 164, 165 and 167?
- In its mid-term report from 2016 the Government of Botswana announced its intention to undertake dialogue on the issue of the Death Penalty and was commissioning a study on the issue. How these plans proceeding and does the Government of Botswana are intend to initiate a public debate?

GERMANY

- What steps are being taken to achieve full equality of women and reduce gender-based violence, inter alia by granting women equal inheritance rights and criminalizing martial rape?
- Despite numerous recommendations in the past UPR cycles, Botswana still applies the death penalty. Botswana has stated that it has not been able to initiate a public debate. What are Botswana's plans regarding such a debate and the abolishment of the death penalty?