

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SWAZILAND

SWITZERLAND

Political rights

What measures does the government plan to take in order to lift the ban on political parties?

Women's rights

How will Swaziland remedy the limitation of the rights of women e.g. in not enabling them to acquire a bank loan or own property without the written consent of their husbands?

Freedom of expression

What is Swaziland doing to facilitate the establishment of privately owned media houses?

Human Rights Commission

What measures is the Government planning to take to strengthen the mandate the Human Rights Commission and guarantee the access of the Swazi people to the Commission?

Extra-judicial killings and torture

How many judicial investigations into alleged extrajudicial killings and torture have the Swazi authorities undertaken so far? What was the outcome of these investigations?

How does Swaziland respond to recommendations by Swazi civil society groups to establish commissions of inquiry into all deaths that occur while in the hands of the State police, the army, correctional services and game rangers?

Death Penalty

Does the government of Swaziland foresee to impose a moratorium on executions with a view to the abolition of the death penalty?"

UNITED KINGDOM

- We would be grateful if you would provide information on the extent to which civil society was consulted in the preparation of your national report.
- Please could you inform us as to when enabling legislation to fully operationalize the Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration will be passed, and

whether the Commission will operate in accordance with the Paris principles designed to guide the practice of such institutions?

- We would be grateful if you could explain why, despite the fact that the current percentage of women in parliament is 23%, Section 86(1) of the Constitution (which provides for the election of four additional women if the number of women in parliament does not reach 30%) has not been used.
- What plans do you have to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment?
- What measures is Swaziland taking to investigate and prosecute state agents who violate human rights?
- Please could you explain what measures are being taken to ensure that the Suppression of Terrorism Act of 2008 is compatible with Section 24 of the Constitution which provides for freedom of expression?
- Please could you explain what plans you have to rectify the minority status of women in customary law?
- What plans do you have to enact legislation protecting the right to freedom of sexual orientation?