

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SOUTH AFRICA – ADD.1

NETHERLANDS

- **Women's rights/ Violence against Women**

The Netherlands commends South Africa for the results obtained in promoting equality for women and fighting discrimination. However, concerns remain about high levels of sexual violence against women and girls (A/HRC/WG.6/13/ZAF/3, par. 39). Could you elaborate on the efforts made by the Government of South Africa to combat violence against women?

- **LGBT's**

The Netherlands welcomes South Africa's commitment to equality and non-discrimination and particularly commends the task force established by the government to combat hate crimes against LGBT persons (A/HRC/WG.6/13/ZAF.3, par. 40-42). Could the Government of South Africa elaborate further on the extent to which this task force succeeds in its mandate?

- **Freedom of press**

The Netherlands appreciates the high standards for freedom of press and information in South-Africa. In this regard, the Netherlands has noted the controversy surrounding the introduction of the Protection of State Information Bill (A/HRC/WG.6/13/ZAF/3, par. 51-52). In what ways does the South-African government intend to meet the concerns of civil society with regard to introduction of this Bill?

- **Human rights and crime prevention**

The Netherlands welcomes the commitment made by the government of South Africa to combat crime and recognizes that, as mentioned in paragraph 46 of the national report, fighting corruption and crime one of the key priorities is for the period 2009-2014. Could the government elaborate on the progress made and could the government of South Africa specify the situation in urban versus rural areas?

SLOVENIA

- What concrete action has the Government taken in order to tackle the persistence of violent attacks targeted against LGBT individuals?

- What specific measures does the Government intend to take in order to tackle the growing incidences of gender-based violence?
- What measures has the Government taken so far in order to address the recommendation from the first UPR cycle on the full abolition and criminalization of corporal punishment?

SWEDEN

- How will the newly established Ministry of Women, Children and Persons with Disabilities, as well as the reinstated FCS, be empowered to prevent violence against women?
- What are the views of the Government of South Africa on the fears raised that the Protection of State Information Bill will have a negative impact on access to information and media freedom?

UNITED KINGDOM

- We note South Africa's role in promoting human rights, including at the United Nations, and would like to ask what plans the Government of South Africa has to further promote human rights regionally and globally?
- We welcome South Africa's sponsorship of the UN Human Rights Council Resolution on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in 2011. What steps do you plan to take to further tackle violent crimes based on gender or sexual orientation in South Africa?
- Please could you tell us what plans you have to ensure proposed legislation, does not have a negative impact on freedom of expression and freedom of information in South Africa?
- Please could you share with us what steps you plan to take to tackle the high maternal and infant mortality rates in South Africa?
- Could you please share with us how the Government of South Africa will manage the follow-up to this Universal Periodic Review, and who will be responsible for oversight of implementation, monitoring and reporting?