

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ZAMBIA (SECOND BATCH)**

### **GERMANY**

- Due to the failure of the referendum on the constitutional amendment in August 2016, important elements of the constitutional amendment could not be implemented. In particular, the so-called 'bill of rights', which aims at strengthening democracy, the rule of law, human rights including economic, social and cultural rights in Zambia was not integrated. What are the current plans of Zambia to give these important rights a constitutional status and when does Zambia expect a successful implementation?
- The so-called 'Public Order Act' requests organizations such as parties or non-governmental organizations to announce planned meetings or demonstrations. In many instances, particularly regarding events of opposition parties or demonstrations, these were prohibited with reference to public security. How does Zambia plan to ensure that the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression enshrined in the Zambian constitution can be exercised freely and without restrictions?

### **NORWAY**

- Reports of cases of gender-based violence continue to increase and marital rape is *de facto* still not criminalised. What is Zambia doing to counteract this trend?
- Journalists and media houses are subjected to threats, intimidations and violent attacks. How does Zambia intend to protect the space for freedom of speech?
- How will the Government of Zambia proceed to ensure that the proposed Bill of Rights is enacted into law?
- Why is the Zambia Human Rights Commission not sufficiently funded to carry out its task as a human rights watchdog?

### **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

- What practical measures has the Government of Zambia introduced since its second UPR to tackle intrastate and interstate trafficking of adults and children?
- We welcome the fact that Zambia has not carried out an execution since 1997, while noting that death sentences continue to be passed. Does the Government of Zambia intend to give consideration to abolition of the death penalty?
- We note reports about prison conditions in Zambia, including problems with malnutrition, overcrowding, poor medical care, and the risk of rape or torture. What steps is the Government of Zambia taking to address these issues?

- We note that Zambia has introduced legislation to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, but policies and laws that are discriminatory towards persons with disabilities still exist, including the Mental Disorders Act. What steps is the Government of Zambia taking to reform legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?
- We welcome efforts taken by the Government of Zambia to reduce gender inequalities and prevent gender-based violence. What steps is the Government taking to operationalise the Gender Equity and Equality Commission, to ensure that the rights of women and girls are promoted and protected?