

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO AFGHANISTAN (FIRST BATCH)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Considering that UNAMA documented 8050 civilian casualties in the first nine months of 2018, what steps will be taken by the Government of Afghanistan in the future to ensure that civilians are protected in line with international law?
- Given UNAMA documented a pattern of insurgent and terrorist attacks directed towards religious minorities in Afghanistan this year, what measures does the Afghan Government intend to take to protect the rights and security of religious minorities, in line with the constitution of Afghanistan?
- Considering UNAMA's report in May 2018 on violence against women in Afghanistan, what practical steps, beyond passing the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women in 2009, does the Government of Afghanistan plan to take to ensure that fewer women face violence and that those who are victims of violence have access to justice?
- Given Reporters without Borders have documented a high number of journalist deaths in Afghanistan in recent years, what does the Afghan Government plan to do to improve the safety of journalists operating across the country and end impunity for crimes against journalists?
- What further measures does the Afghan Government plan on taking to reduce the practice of torture and ill-treatment in detention?

SWEDEN

- What measures has the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan undertaken to ensure that the legal provisions prohibiting confessions extracted as a result of torture, or other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, coercion or duress, are upheld and not admitted as evidence in court proceedings, in accordance with its international obligations under the Convention against Torture?
- What measures has the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan undertaken to ensure full implementation of the National Action Plan on the Security Council resolution 1325 to ensure that Afghan women are included and meaningfully participate in peace talks, including as negotiators?
- What steps is the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan taking to ensure the safety of journalists and media workers amidst a challenging security situation, including measures for creating an enabling environment for the investigation of crimes against members of the media and the prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes?

GERMANY

- Has Afghanistan started independent investigations into alleged cases of torture, enforced disappearances and summary executions? Have victims of torture been provided with compensation in accordance with Afghan law?
- Which measures have been taken to investigate attacks on media workers and to prosecute those responsible for threatening or assaulting media workers?
- Does Afghanistan plan concrete steps to strengthen children rights, in particular in the combat against forced marriage, the practice of “bacha bazi”, or sexual exploitation of any kind?
- How is the Supreme Court ruling on the decriminalization of girls and women “running away” being implemented?
- Have there been investigations and disciplinary actions against police, prosecutors and judges involved in the abusive practice of so called “virginity examinations”?

ANGOLA

- De quelle manière les autorités nationales prétendent-elles augmenter la coopération avec les institutions internationales chargées de la promotion et la défense des droits de l’homme ?
- Depuis le dernier EPU, quelles ont été les mesures mises en œuvre par le Gouvernement afghan pour faciliter à l’accès à la justice par la population?
- Quelles sont les mesures spécifiques que le Gouvernement afghan prétend mettre en œuvre pour respecter les engagements pris dans le cadre de la CEDEF?

PORTUGAL on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRF’s

- Could the State-under-review describe its national mechanism or process responsible for coordinating the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the monitoring of progress and impact?
- Has the State-under-review established a dedicated ‘national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up’ (NMIRF) covering UPR recommendations, but also recommendations/observations generated by the UN human rights Treaty Bodies, the Special Procedures and relevant regional mechanisms? If so, could the State-under-review briefly share its experience on creating such mechanism, including challenges faced and lessons learnt, as well as any plans or needs to strengthen the NMIRF in the future?