

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NICARAGUA (FIRST BATCH)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- How will the Government of Nicaragua ensure that the national dialogue that it has committed to conducting remains credible and delivers a viable democratic resolution to the political crisis?
- What is the Government doing to guarantee freedom of the press, safeguard the physical security of media professionals and provide equal access to licensing and financial means?
- What will the Government do to ensure full independence of the Judiciary in handling proceedings against political prisoners, and address reported violations of due process and mistreatment while in custody?
- How does the Government of Nicaragua plan to tackle ongoing violence against women and girls, including femicides and mistreatment and sexual abuse against children, particularly given the lack of reporting and homogenous statistics?
- What is the Government doing to safeguard the land rights of indigenous people and protect them from unlawful expropriation, illegal settlements and human rights violations stemming from these activities?

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, which, *inter alia*, clusters all the above, manages them in national databases, coordinates implementation actions across government, monitors progress and impact, and then streamline reporting procedures back to the UN? 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?

SWEDEN

- What measures will the Government of Nicaragua take to ensure the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association in accordance with ICCPR,

including promoting a legal, administrative and fiscal framework in which non-profit organizations can be created and perform their activities without any obstacles?

- What actions will the Government of Nicaragua take to disband and disarm parapolic groups, protect all citizens from any illegal or violent actions taken by such groups and establish the criminal responsibility of those involved?
- What steps is the Government of Nicaragua planning to ensure that the violent events that occurred from April 18th onwards are investigated and tried before judicial bodies whose impartiality can be guaranteed?

BELGIUM

- What concrete measures is the government of Nicaragua taking to protect the life of women and girls in cases where the continued pregnancy endangers the health or the life of the mother?
- According to estimates of international organizations, child pregnancy by girls between 10 and 14 years old is estimated at 1,640 deliveries a year, which is the highest rate in the hemisphere. During Nicaragua's second UPR, Belgium recommended that Nicaragua would review its legislation to ensure respect of the reproductive rights of women and girls. Nicaragua did not accept this recommendation, stating that it would not consider amending its legislation on abortion. However, since SRHR has a much broader scope, what measures is the government of Nicaragua taking to prevent unwanted pregnancies by girls?
- Is the government of Nicaragua considering to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance in 2019? Could the government of Nicaragua elaborate which reasons would prevent it from ratifying this convention in comparison to other conventions that were ratified?
- Is the government of Nicaragua considering to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights?