SLOVENIA

- We welcome Qatar's efforts in reforming the kafalah system and abolishing exit permits as promising steps in addressing this issue. However, provisions in the new legislation allow for certain exceptions, which enable the sponsorship system to persist in practice. We would be interested to know whether the Government considers adopting further measures in order to reduce the risk of migrant workers being subjected to force labour.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

- Many news items and scandals have surfaced since Qatar's previous review. The global press widely reported that Qatar has paid more than $1bn to terrorists who systematically violate human rights in Syria, Yemen, Libya, and all over the world. Many of these violations, including torture and war crimes, would not have happened and would not continue without Qatar's support.

  How does Qatar plan to ensure with international transparency that Daesh, the Muslim Brotherhood, Al Qaeda, Al Nusra and other terrorist organizations are no longer able to use Qatari financing and support to violate human rights in the region, and around the world?

- Over the last year, representatives of thousands of Al Ghufran recounted in Geneva that Qatar revoked their nationality, and continues to expel tribesmen, including children, without due process. They also spoke of their property that the Qatari government seized to build facilities for the 2022 FIFA Men's World Cup. Although the issue was also raised by the CERD Committee earlier this year, it is absent from Qatar's report.

  Why is the harm to the Al Ghufran's rights, and Qatar's plan for remedying such harm, missing from Qatar's report, and what remedies will Qatar offer?

- Since its inception the National Human Rights Committee has been acting as the official spokesman of the Qatari Government.

  How will Qatar make its national human rights institution financially and politically independent, and credible?

- The level of specialization is higher in the Qatari female work force than among Qatari men, yet women in Qatar are paid between 25% and 50% less than men. Moreover, the wage gap has been growing in recent years. Thus Qatar is far off the mark to achieve Goal 8 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals: equal pay for equal work by 2030.

  What concrete steps will Qatar take to ensure that women receive equal pay for equal work? Will Qatar, for instance,

- ✓ accede to the 1951 ILO Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100);
- ✓ follow the example of Jordan to contribute to the work of the Equal Pay International Coalition; and/or
- ✓ increase its donations to laudable UN initiatives, such as the Fund for Gender Equality, to match the donations given by its neighbours?

BAHRAIN

- What are the measures the government has taken to enforce laws until the reform process is completed to protect foreign workers following the signing of the November 2017 agreement with the International Labour Organisation to close complaints concerning the violation of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947?
- Multiple regional and international media reports have recently indicated that Qatar has witnessed violent demonstrations by foreign workers due to the late and non-payment of wages, exacerbating high levels of worker debt caused by illegal and unethical recruitment practices. What measures has the government taken to remedy this and to ensure access to obtaining justice when rights are violated?

SAUDI ARABIA

- According to a MENA joint submission, the National (Qatari) Human Rights Committee is entirely financed by the State and the Executive retains the power to both allocate funds to the Institution and decide on its expenses. Is Qatar taking any measures to make the NHRC in conformity with the Paris Principles.
- It has been reported by many credible sources that there was no Law criminalizing domestic violence. Are there any steps that Qatar envisages to take to amend its penal code in order to counter violence against women seriously.