

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE ADD.1**

### **NETHERLANDS**

#### **Domestic violence**

- In light of a demographic report (2008-2009) which among others showed that 1 in 5 women over 15 years old has experienced domestic violence, can the Government elaborate on the efforts it undertakes to address the causes and consequences of domestic violence and strengthen the possibilities for victims to bring cases of domestic violence to court?

#### **Transparency**

- With reference to paragraph 33 of the OHCHR compilation which states that the development prospects of São Tomé and Príncipe in the years ahead will mainly be based on the sale of oil deposits, can the Government how it intends to ensure observance of the law on oil revenue management (law 8/2004) which aims to guarantee transparent national resource management?

#### **Strengthening the judiciary**

- Noting paragraph 15 of the OHCHR compilation which states that the country has faced major administration inefficiency, what does the Government do to strengthening the judiciary?

#### **Child Protection**

- In light of concerns expressed in paragraph 8 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraph 1 of the stakeholder report that corporal punishment is not prohibited, does the Government intend to take measures to prevent corporal punishment, including by prohibiting it under any circumstances?

### **UNITED KINGDOM**

- We would be grateful to know what plans São Tomé & Príncipe has to ratify the Committee Against Torture and other United Nations human rights treaties that it has signed.
- Could you please tell us more about the work of the Fifth Committee of Parliament which is responsible for human rights? Would São Tomé and Príncipe consider creating an independent National Human Rights Institution, in line with the Paris Principles ?
- Civil society organisations have raised concerns about discrimination against disabled, poor and vulnerable children, including those who are victims of prostitution. We should be grateful to know what is being done to address such concerns? Will São Tomé and Príncipe sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography?

- Please could you tell us if São Tomé and Príncipe will issue a standing invitation to UN Special Procedures?
- We would be interested to know whether São Tomé and Príncipe will take steps to decriminalise same sex relationships and to review laws and policies to ensure that they do not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation ?
- Please could you tell us how you intend to follow up on your Universal Periodic Review ? Will you involve civil society ?