

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ERITREA-ADD 1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- With reference to the Human Rights Council condemnations of severe restrictions on freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of information in Eritrea, could you specify what steps has the Government taken to tackle these human rights violations?
- Reportedly, some 30 journalists have been detained and remain being kept in unknown places. Does the Government of Eritrea intend to tackle effectively the issue of safety of journalists?
- The content and flow of information, including on the Internet, are closely controlled by the State. What measures does the Government plan to introduce as far as censorship is concerned?
- In the National Report, “the internal juridical processes of approval and endorsement of [...] the Convention against Torture” are mentioned. Could the Government of Eritrea provide more details on these processes and specify in what timeframe it intends to ratify the Convention?
- The Czech Republic would be interested to learn more details on the effect of anti-FGM campaigns conducted by government bodies in collaboration with other stakeholders as mentioned in the submitted National Report.

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Eritrea considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Does the Government of Eritrea intend to respond positively to the requests for a visit of the special rapporteur on torture and other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions?
- Is the Government of Eritrea considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under all human rights conventions to which it is already a State party?
- A considerable number of reports from Eritrea to the treaty bodies are overdue. What measures have been taken by Eritrea to remedy this?

- Is the Government of Eritrea considering ratifying the Convention Against Torture, the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, and the Statute of Rome of the International Criminal Court?
- Is the Government of Eritrea considering ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ILO Convention No. 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor?
- Is the Government of Eritrea considering ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty?
- Which concrete steps have been taken by the authorities of Eritrea to prevent the recruitment and the use of children by the Government forces of Eritrea?
- Which concrete steps have been taken by the authorities to tackle the issue of arbitrary detention, incommunicado detention and detention in secret detention centers?
- Is the Government of Eritrea considering releasing all prisoners of conscience?
- How is the Government of Eritrea ensuring the right to freedom of expression in conformity with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
- Harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages, are prohibited by law in Eritrea. Which concrete measures have been taken by the authorities to achieve the elimination of female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages in practice?
- Is the Government of Eritrea considering decriminalizing consensual same-sex sexual conduct?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- In your response to the 2009 UPR report, you confirmed that domestic legislation enshrines Habeus Corpus and makes political abduction a crime, and undertook to consider ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons From Forced Disappearance. What progress has been made and will you now release all political prisoners, including the G11, or at least allow independent monitors access to them?
- In your response to the 2009 UPR report, you committed to developing freedom of the press. What progress has been made and can you explain why there has been no independent media in Eritrea since 2001?

- Since Eritrea's last UPR, what progress has the government made on limiting national service to 18 months, as specified in Proclamation No. 82/1995? Will the government end the new practice of obliging citizens to serve in an armed civilian militia?
- What efforts has Eritrea made to prevent human trafficking, including by introducing anti-trafficking legislation, prosecute perpetrators and protect victims?
- In light of the fact that the Eritrean Constitution enshrines the right to practice any religion, can you explain why in practice only four are sanctioned; and how do you respond to reports that individuals are imprisoned for their religious belief, including some who are elderly and sick? Will the government drop its restrictions on freedom of religion and release all prisoners detained because of their religious belief?

SPAIN

- What measures have been adopted by the Government in order to guarantee access to justice to women and children that have suffered gender or sexual violence?