ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO EGYPT – ADD.1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Does the Government of Egypt consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establishing the National Preventive Mechanism in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol?

- Does the Government of Egypt consider issuing a standing invitation to the UN human rights Special Procedures?

- What are the release prospects of journalists and other media employees imprisoned for carrying out legitimate news reporting activities?

- What are the steps of the Government of Egypt to prevent the use of torture and ill-treatment, including sexual violence, by various Egyptian security agencies such as police, military and prison authorities?

- Does the Government of Egypt consider implementing the recommendations of Election Observation Missions following the May 2014 presidential elections especially in the area of political participation of women, unlimited and timely participation of independent international and domestic election observers, the rights to freedom of assembly, expression a information and campaign finance provisions?

FINLAND

- What measures will the government of Egypt take to guarantee freedom of assembly, which is also recognized in article 73 of the Constitution, regarding the thousands of persons arrested in peaceful assemblies under the law 107 of 2013 on the Right to Public Meetings, Processions, and Peaceful Demonstrations? What measures will the government take to ensure that preventive detention orders are used strictly in accordance with the limitations set by international human rights law? What measures will the government take to set restrictions on and ensure criminal responsibility and accountability for the use of excessive/lethal force by law enforcement officials against demonstrators considering that the law 107 of 2013 does not provide it?

- Egypt accepted at the Universal Periodic Review in 2010 to amend the Personal Status Law to guarantee equal rights for women in all matters.

- Will there be any amendments that modify or delete articles in the Personal Status Law that discriminate against women?

- In the Universal Periodic Review in 2010 Egypt accepted to guarantee freedom of religion or belief to all groups and minorities, including in relevant legislation, without discrimination and to continue to intensify its efforts to ensure that violence, in particular hate-motivated crime, does not occur.

- What measures has Egypt taken in order to protect minorities in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other human rights obligations of Egypt? And what measures has Egypt taken against those authorities that fail to provide protection?

GERMANY

- Whereas Art. 75 of the Egyptian Constitution guarantees the right to form non-governmental organizations, recently amended Art. 78 of the Penal Code on foreign funding introduces rather imprecise legal terms (such as "an act detrimental to any national interest"), whilst providing for severe mandatory punishment (life imprisonment). How is "any national interest" defined, and by whom is it defined? How can Art. 78 of the Penal Code be applied without conflicting with Art. 75 of the Constitution?

- Egypt has commenced official investigations into the deaths of hundreds of civilian demonstrators and policemen during the summer of 2013. What is the state of these investigations and when will the results be published?

- Several special procedures mandate holders and human rights organizations have turned attention to human trafficking in Egypt, including abduction, exploitation, physical ill-treatment and abuse of African migrants. What measures is Egypt taking to prevent human trafficking and to investigate and prosecute persons behind trafficking and their networks? What further steps is Egypt taking to protect the human rights of migrants and assist victims of trafficking and ill-treatment? Can trafficking victims obtain residence in Egypt on humanitarian grounds?