

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO JORDAN (FIRST BATCH)

SWEDEN

- Jordan has taken positive steps following its acceptance of the 2009 UPR recommendations on freedom of expression. However, Sweden is concerned that the 2018 endorsed amendments to the country's Cybercrime Law that criminalize incitement to hatred, defining it vaguely as "any word of action that incites discord or religious, sectarian, ethnic, or regional strife or discrimination between individuals or groups", further restrict freedom of expression and increase self-censorship in the Kingdom. How does Jordan plan to amend the Cybercrime law to bring it in line with earlier commitments?
- The amendments in the Public Gathering Law from March 2011 enabled Jordanians to hold public meetings and demonstrations without the permission of the government. Despite this, owners of venues such as hotels continued to seek permission from the Interior Ministry to host public meetings and events. How is Jordan guaranteeing that the amendments in the Public Gathering Law are effectively implemented?
- Jordan has the highest literacy rates for women in the region, but also one of the lowest rates of female participation in the work force (some 17 percent in 2017). How does Jordan intend to protect and promote women's full and equal enjoyment of their human rights and opportunities to join the work force?

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? 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?

LIECHTENSTEIN

- Liechtenstein recognizes Jordan's commitment to international criminal justice, as evidenced by its ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

- **What steps has Jordan taken to ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression?**

GERMANY

- Building on the positive legal amendments in the area of prosecuting torture and providing legal aid that have already been passed, which further steps does Jordan plan to take to redefine torture in line with international standards, to prosecute perpetrators of torture in civil courts, and to provide legal aid to every person who is arrested, as Jordan agreed in both previous UPR sessions and pledged to do in its Comprehensive National Plan for Human Rights (CNPHR)?
- Which steps does Jordan plan to take in order to increase the independence of the judiciary and to reform the State Security Law so that they become aligned with international standards and best practices, as pledged in the CNPHR?
- In order to work towards the goal of guaranteeing the freedom of assembly, as stated in the CNPHR, will Jordan undertake steps to reign in the use of executive authority by governors to prevent public assemblies, even when the required advance notice has been given?
- Will Jordan scale back limitations placed on the freedom of the media and expression, such as the registration requirements of websites as publications, the requirement for journalists to be members of the Jordanian Press Association, and the criminalization of public expressions under other laws than the Press and Publications Law (PPL) such as Anti-Terror Law, Penal Code and the Cyber Crime Law (CCL)?
- Which further steps does Jordan plan to take to protect women and girls against gender-based violence to ensure freedom of movement, the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and family life?
- Which further steps does Jordan plan to undertake to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers, in particular domestic and agricultural workers?

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of the Kingdom of Jordan planning to amend the nationality law as to allow the transmission of Jordanian nationality to their children by women married to non-Jordanians?
- What steps have been undertaken by the Government of the Kingdom of Jordan to ensure the respect of the moratorium on the death penalty? Is the Government considering to abolish the death penalty?
- Given the persistently low level of prosecution of torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment cases, does the Government of the Kingdom of Jordan intend to move the jurisdiction for these cases from the Police Courts to the Civilian Courts?

- Does the Government of the Kingdom of Jordan intend to amend article 208 of the Criminal Code to classify acts of torture as "felony" instead of "misdemeanor" and to include repair and compensation procedures, in line with the Convention against Torture and to fight the impunity of perpetrators of torture?
- Does the Government of the Kingdom of Jordan intend to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to implement the recommendation made by Belgium in the previous UPR?

SWITZERLAND

- **Women's rights:** Switzerland welcomes Jordan's efforts to sanction more severely crimes against women and girls, including the abolition of Article 308 and the amendment of Article 98 of the Penal Code. However, Switzerland remains concerned about the current situation of women's rights in Jordan. Is Jordan considering including the principle of equality between women and men in its Constitution? Is the government of Jordan ready to take concrete measures to end the guardianship system for women?
- **Torture:** Switzerland notes with regrets that Jordan did not accept its recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a national preventive mechanism during the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review. Given the lack of such an institution and the fact that allegations of torture and ill-treatment are mostly dealt with by non-civil courts, how does Jordan ensure that all complaints are being treated in a timely, competent and independent manner? Can Jordan present figures on the concrete cases of alleged torture and ill-treatment and their results? What measures does Jordan take to prevent torture and other forms ill-treatment?
- **Decent work:** Switzerland welcomes Jordan's support for refugees and the partial access to the formal labor market granted to Syrian refugees. . However, numerous refugees – alongside nationals and migrant workers – continue to face dangerous and exploitative work conditions in low-skilled professions, in spite of adequate legal provisions and a labor inspectorate system. What additional and specific measures does Jordan intend to take to ensure decent work conditions for everyone in the labor market, especially those in low-skilled professions?
- **Freedom of expression:** What measures does Jordan envisage in order to make sure that its efforts to prevent hate speech does not negatively impact freedom of expression in the Kingdom in accordance with its obligations under international law?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- What measures is Jordan taking in line with its international obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), to safeguard the rights of Jordanian women and ensure gender equality, in particular with regards to granting women equal rights to men in terms of transfer of nationality to their children?
- What steps is Jordan taking to ensure that natives of the Gaza strip residing in Jordan have access to adequate living standards and employment, and that their human rights and fundamental freedoms are protected?
- What measures does Jordan intend to take to ensure that human rights of refugees are respected and to prevent refoulement of Syrian refugees from Jordan to Syria against their will?
- What further steps is Jordan taking to ensure fair trial conditions, particularly access to justice for the poor and those in the most vulnerable situations, in line with the UPR recommendation that Jordan accepted in 2015 to “Take measures aiming at further ensuring for the administrative detainees, duly supported legal assistance, their right of taking proceedings before a court to challenge the lawfulness of their detention”?
- What measures has Jordan taken to ensure the amended Cybercrimes law, currently before the Jordanian Parliament, is in line with international law, particularly on the definition of hate speech?

SLOVENIA

- Does the Government of Jordan consider changing legislation that would allow Jordanian women married to non-Jordanian to pass on their nationality to their children on equal footing with Jordanian men?
- What steps has the government taken to increase society awareness about the implications of child marriage and its long-term and short-term consequences?
- What steps has the government taken to end men guardianship on adult women?