**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO BAHRAIN (SECOND BATCH)**

**GERMANY**

What steps is Bahrain taking in order to

* Ensure the right to freedom of opinion and expression and what concrete measures Bahrain will take to do so
* Establish alternative sentences to relieve prisons and ensure reintegration after the punishment has been served
* Make it easier for foreign workers to receive residence permit and protection

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported recommendations to amend the citizenship law to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restriction and on an equal basis with men. What is the status of Bahrain’s pledge to consider amending the Bahraini Citizenship Act to grant citizenship to the children of Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men? The United States believes this is a particularly important reform to address the risk of children of Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men being stateless.
* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported various recommendations related to the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including establishing a national preventive mechanism for torture. What steps has Bahrain taken to ensure that all allegations of torture and ill-treatment are independently, promptly, and thoroughly investigated, that individuals responsible are prosecuted, and that victims are guaranteed access to justice, redress, and rehabilitation?
* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported a recommendation to modify the legislation to repeal criminal responsibility for activities that fall within the exercise of the freedom of expression. Since 2017, has Bahrain repealed any legislation that criminalizes activities falling within the exercise of the freedoms of expression and association?
* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported a recommendation to implement relevant legislation to protect the full exercise of the rights to freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association. What steps has Bahrain taken to remove obstacles and restrictions to, and guarantee protection for the exercise of the rights to freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly?
* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported a recommendation to adopt a law to protect human rights defenders that includes special protection for vulnerable groups of defenders, including women defenders, and those who express themselves through the Internet and social media. What steps has Bahrain taken to ensure the protection of NGOs, human rights defenders, journalists, and political opposition members from acts of aggression and harassment? Has Bahrain established a protection mechanism for NGOS, human rights defenders, and journalists established by law and with the support of OHCHR?
* In the 2017 UPR, the Government of Bahrain supported recommendations to implement policies that promote gender equality and provide women with opportunities to play an active role in social, economic, and political spheres, and to actively implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022. What steps has Bahrain taken to eliminate discrimination and gender-based violence by amending relevant laws, such as articles 334 and 353 of the Penal Code, criminalizing marital rape, and implementing the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022?