

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC – ADD 1**

### **FINLAND**

We acknowledge that the Government of the Czech Republic has made commitments to protect children from violence, including by elaborating a National Plan of Fight against Violence against Children to be introduced in 2008<sup>1</sup>.

With regard to the United Nations study on violence against children<sup>2</sup>, which states that "no violence against children is justifiable; all violence against children is preventable", we would appreciate to receive further information on legislative, administrative and other measures taken to implement the Study's overarching and setting-specific recommendations in the Czech Republic. In particular, we would greatly appreciate if the Government of the Czech Republic could share with us good practices to prevent and respond to violence against children<sup>3</sup>.

### **NETHERLANDS**

What changes will the anti-discrimination law that was passed on 19 march 2008 bring about? How does the delegation envision the implementation of this law?

### **ITALY**

In 2003 the Committee on the Rights of the Child requested the Czech Republic to develop an effective system for the reporting and investigation of cases of domestic violence, ill-treatment and abuse of children. It also recommended the State to adopt and implement measures to prevent and address cases of child abuse and neglect; to enact legislation explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment; to implement training programmes on children's right. We have noted that a National Plan of Fight against Violence against Children is to be introduced in 2008. Could you provide more information about its content?

While underlining the efforts by the Czech Republic to effectively address the problem of discrimination against Roma, including the establishment of an Agency for Social Inclusion of Roma Communities, we would like to know if the Government has envisaged further measures in this field.

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<sup>1</sup> The national report for the universal periodic review submitted by the Government of the Czech Republic, page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children (A/61/299).

<sup>3</sup> Report (which provides information on the dissemination of the United Nations study on violence against children and on progress made in the initial phase of follow-up to the study) of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children (A/62/209, see footnote 9).

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

1. We note that the Czech Republic has taken a range of measures designed to address the concerns over the treatment of persons belonging to the Roma minority in relation to a number of economic, social and cultural rights. How does the Czech Republic intend to improve its ability to monitor and measure the effectiveness of these activities?
2. The Czech Republic is a signatory to the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. What is your expected time-scale for ratification of this important instrument?
3. We note the information provided on improvement of conditions in childcare facilities, including discouraging the use of restraints such as caged beds. How effective do you assess this has been, and what next steps are you considering to improve conditions for children from vulnerable backgrounds?
4. Please could you provide information on the existence and status of a National Human Rights Institution in the Czech Republic and whether it complies fully with the Paris Principles?
5. Could you please elaborate further on the extent to which civil society in the Czech Republic was involved in the preparation of your national report?