

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ECUADOR**

### **SWEDEN**

- In its 2006 report from its last consideration of Ecuador, the Committee Against Torture listed a number of recommendations to the government of Ecuador toward the aim of ensuring full compliance with the Convention Against Torture. Civil society organisations have reported several recent cases of alleged abuse of detainees, while poor conditions in prisons and other places of detentions have threatened the health and physical safety of detainees. What measures has the government of Ecuador taken to ensure the well-being of prisoners and detainees in compliance with the Convention Against Torture other international standards?
- Civilian courts have jurisdiction over members of the police and armed forces in Ecuador. Legal amendments have been made stipulating that police officers should be tried in civilian courts. Nonetheless, separate police and military courts are often charged in Ecuador with handling court cases against members of the police and armed forces respectively. Given that sessions of such courts can be closed and that the persons indicted are from the same professional corps as the courts, concerns have been raised as to the lack of impartiality of such courts. What measures has the government of Ecuador taken to ensure a lack of impunity for offenses committed by members of the police and armed forces?

### **IRELAND**

- What measures have been taken to ensure full enjoyment of the freedoms of expression, assembly and association, with particular regard to the right to protest?
- What measures have been taken to promote the role of human rights defenders, through education and inclusion in decision-making, in particular amongst national authorities, law enforcement officials and security officers?
- What measures have been put in place to support the work of human rights defenders?

### **GERMANY**

- What measures does the GoE undertake in order to rapidly improve the alarming prison conditions – characterized by overcrowding, lack of medical care, scarce food and physical assaults – in accordance with the UN-Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of detainees?
- How does the GoE intend to act against the social discrimination of Afro-Ecuadorians who live up to 70% in poverty and who are largely excluded from the labour market?
- What action does the GoE take in order to ensure full respect of the rights of the child, in particular with regard to abolishing the persisting problems of child labour, malnutrition of children and their sexual exploitation?

- What measures does the GoE envisage in order to implement the recommendations of the UN-Committee against Torture regarding a) excessive use of violence by security forces and mistreatment of detainees by police officers, b) the definition of psychological torture, and c) the prosecution of torture by independent and impartial courts?

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

- Could you please elaborate further on the extent to which civil society in Ecuador was involved in the preparation of your national report for this process?
- What mechanisms exist for ensuring that adopted human rights legislation and treaty body recommendations are enforced?
- How is the independence of the judiciary upheld?
- Ecuador's 1998 Constitution recognises many of the rights included in the 2007 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the International Labor Organisation's Convention 169. How will the Government of Ecuador ensure that these guarantees remain intact as it rewrites its Constitution, and ensure that the rights of minority groups, including women, are universally respected?
- How will the Government of Ecuador ensure that its plans to eradicate child labour will be implemented, rigorously enforced and evaluated?
- There have been worrying reports that the security forces have on occasion acted with excessive force. What training do your officers receive to ensure that they consistently operate within international humanitarian law?
- Could you please elaborate further on the existence and status of a National Human Rights Institution in your country, and whether it complies fully with the Paris Principles?