

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MOZAMBIQUE**

### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

- Although there have been improvements in recent years, government figures show that only 43 percent of Mozambicans have access to safe water, and 19 percent have access to improved sanitation. What steps has the Government of Mozambique taken in order to safe a right to healthy living condition and access to clean water and sanitation?
- There continued to be reports that understaffed and inadequately trained judiciary, particularly in the lower tiers, remains problem in Mozambique. The judicial system continued to face allegations that it suffers from a lack of transparency and often does not comply with the principles of promotion and protection of human rights. According to some reports detainees, subjected to often lengthy incarceration prior to the determination of their guilt or innocence, spent in some instances more time in pre-trial detention than the length of the sentence they eventually received. What steps the Government of Mozambique has taken to ensure an independent judiciary and the right to access to justice?

### **DENMARK**

- When does Mozambique intend to submit its initial report to the Committee against Torture?
- Please provide information on the steps being taken to implement the UN Convention against Torture.
- When does Mozambique intend to adhere to Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture?

### **GERMANY**

- The United Nations Country Team reported about conditions in prisons which do not respect all human rights and the human dignity. The Country Team noted that in some prisons no seperations between adolescent detainees and adults exist, that prisons are overcrowded and that prisoners often do not have access to proper food, health care and sanitation. There are also reports about torture and ill-treatment in some prisons.

Germany would be grateful for information what Mozambique is doing to improve prison conditions and to guarantee human rights for all prisoners?

## **LATVIA**

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 73 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Considering previous cooperation of Mozambique with special procedures mandate holders - would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the future?

## **SWEDEN**

- Could the Government of Mozambique elaborate on the status of women's rights and discrimination against women?
- What actions are currently being taken to combat gender-based discrimination in law and practice?
- What time-frame does the Government have in mind for the implementation of legislation to further protect the rights of women?
- Are there any plans to ratify the CEDAW Convention in the near future?
- Sweden would like to ask the Government of Mozambique what measures it is currently taking, in accordance with its international obligations, to protect its population from excessive use of force, torture and other human rights violations committed by the police?
- Could the Government of Mozambique elaborate on what measures it is undertaking to guarantee freedom of the press of its people?

## **NETHERLANDS**

- **Access to information**  
Noting that the right to information is enshrined in the Mozambican constitution as well as the absence of provisions that enable people to make use of this right, is the Government willing to address this issue, and if so, how?
- **Education**  
With reference to paragraphs 77 and 78 of the national report which detail the increase of the number of children enrolled in primary education but also highlight the problems of ensuring the quality of education, and in light of concerns expressed in paragraph 68 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraphs 42 and 43 of the stakeholder report on the inadequate quality of education, can the Government elaborate on the efforts it undertakes to address this problem?
- **Malnutrition**  
In light of the remarks made in paragraphs 107 and 108 of the national report on the levels of malnutrition among children and the efforts of the Government to counter this, and with reference to remarks in paragraph 60 of the OHCHR compilation and

paragraphs 34 and 35 of the stakeholder report on the alarmingly high rate of malnutrition among children under five and the difficulties that Government programmes have in reaching all those in need, can the Government elaborate on how it intends to bring down the number of children suffering from severe and chronic malnutrition?

- **Access to justice**

Noting that Mozambique supports the idea of legal pluralism, as stated in paragraphs 22 and 130 of the national report, and with reference to concerns raised in paragraph 46 of the OHCHR compilation that informal institutions might not always take decisions in line with international human rights norms, what how does the Government ensure that legal pluralism does not lead to unequal level treatment and thus potentially to human rights violations?

- **Excessive use of force/ extrajudicial executions**

In light of allegations made in paragraphs 28 and 29 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraphs 14, 15 and 16 of the stakeholder report on excessive use of force and extrajudicial killings by the police, can the Government's elaborate on its response to such allegations of excessive use of force and extrajudicial killings by the police and the measures it takes to prevent such acts from occurring in the future?

- **Sexual orientation**

With reference to paragraph 55 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraph 31 of the stakeholder report that homosexuality is prohibited in Mozambique, can the Government explain what is being done to protect the rights of LGBT?

Furthermore, in light of the statement in paragraph 30 of the stakeholder report that LAMBDA, an NGO for the protection of the rights of sexual minorities, has been waiting for a long time to be recognized as a legitimate organisation, can the Government explain why it takes so long for LAMBDA to be officially registered?

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

- The UK welcomes the steps the Government of Mozambique has taken to engage with civil society during the Universal Periodic Review process - How does the Government plan to continue this dialogue?
- What consideration has been made by the Government of Mozambique to extending a standing invitation to the UN Human Rights Special Procedures?
- When will the Government of Mozambique respond to the request made in April 2008 by the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions to visit the country?
- When will Mozambique complete the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT)?

- When will the Government of Mozambique conclude the consultations into the composition of the National Commission for Human Rights, and when will the Commission become operational?
- When will Mozambique complete the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and what thought has been put into signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol (CRPD-OP)?
- What steps is the Government of Mozambique taking to prevent the mistreatment of prisoners and to adopt a human rights approach to prison management?
- Could you share with us how the Government of Mozambique will manage the follow-up to the Universal Periodic Review, and who will be responsible for oversight of implementation, monitoring and reporting?