

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO PARAGUAY

CANADA

- Canada welcomes the initiative of the Paraguayan government to develop a Basic Document for a National Policy on Public Security as outlined in the national report submitted to the Universal Periodic Review. We would appreciate if you could expand on how you plan on including human rights stakeholders into the implementation scheme and when it plans on having implementation take place?
- We would appreciate if you could provide details on what measures the Paraguayan government has taken to reduce gender-based violence including steps taken to protect victims of domestic violence.
- In the national report submitted to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review your government recognizes the need to strengthen the National System for Comprehensive Protection and Advancement of Children and Adolescents. We would welcome information about how your government plans to do so.
- We would appreciate if you could tell us more about specific measures being taken by the Paraguayan government to fully implement rulings made in 2005-2006 by the Inter-American Court on Human Rights regarding land claims by the Yakyé Axa and Sawhoyamaxa Indigenous groups.
- Could you please tell us what the Government of Paraguay is doing to address police violence with specific reference to the implementation of laws and procedures that protect the rights of all Paraguayan citizens, including those deprived of their liberty?

CZECH REPUBLIC

- We would like to know whether the independent body has been set up in order to investigate alleged abuses of power by law enforcement officials. Could you further elaborate on how an independent investigation of such offences is guaranteed?
- How does the Government of Paraguay proceed with situation of the indigenous communities that have been wholly dispossessed of their land? What steps are to be taken to fully implement policies to ensure the reconstitution of their territory?
- Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned at the wide use of preventive detention for children between 16 and 18 years, as well as the precarious conditions in which adolescents served sentences. It urged Paraguay to undertake efforts to implement a policy on juvenile justice and to ensure that all children victims (e.g. of abuse, domestic violence, sexual and

economic exploitation, abduction, trafficking, or witnesses of such crimes) have effective access to justice and are provided with protection. What steps has the Government of Paraguay taken in order to address those concerns?

DENMARK

- Which steps are being taken to adopt the National Preventive Mechanism draft legislation in accordance with the recommendations from the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT) and which steps are being taken to implement the SPT's other recommendations?

GERMANY

- The Special Rapporteur on Torture noted with concern that torture is still practised in prisons and other detention centres. Regarding to information from the Public Prosecutors Office only one out of 230 complaints of torture, between 2000 and 2008 received conviction. This kind of de-facto-impunity is, according to the Special Rapporteur the main reason for ongoing torture and ill-treatment.

Germany would like to know about the Paraguayan government's plans to combat impunity in all areas and to raise the efficiency of investigative authorities and public prosecutors?

NETHERLANDS

- **The rights of indigenous peoples**

While noting the efforts described in part C of the national report on the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, and with reference to *inter alia* paragraphs 67, 68 and 70 of the OHCHR compilation and paragraphs 5, 12, 43, 44, 45, 47 and 49 which detail prevailing discrimination against indigenous peoples, problems with land claims and the need for a comprehensive policy towards indigenous peoples, can the Government elaborate which mechanisms are being designed to combat discrimination of indigenous peoples, especially with respect to claims to their traditional lands?

- **Domestic violence**

In light of the concern expressed in paragraphs 14 and 29 of the OHCHR report and paragraph 25 of the stakeholder report on the persistence of domestic violence and the difficulties experienced by women and children who have been victims of domestic violence in seeking justice, can the Government elaborate what structural measures are foreseen to protect women and children from domestic violence.

SWEDEN

- Could the Government of Paraguay elaborate on the status of women's rights and discrimination against women?

- What actions are being taken to combat gender-based discrimination in law and practice, in accordance with Paraguay's international obligations?
- Sweden would like to ask the Government of Paraguay what measures it is presently taking to effectively combat discrimination based on sexual orientation in both law and practice?
- Could the Government of Paraguay elaborate on what measures it is undertaking to eradicate ethnic and racial discrimination, including safeguarding the rights of persons belonging to indigenous communities?
- How are the significant socio-economic disparities between indigenous and non-indigenous persons addressed?