

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO FRANCE

DENMARK

- What actions is France taking to reduce overcrowding in the prison system in order to meet standards for prisons such as enough beds, medical care, psychiatric support and hygienic conditions for inmates?
- What can France do to reduce employment discrimination against immigrants?

GERMANY

- With regard to para. 21 of the OHCHR's compilation (A/HRC/WG.6/1/FRA//2) Germany notes the concerns expressed by both CAT and the HR Committee in view of the system of discretionary prosecution for alleged acts of torture or ill-treatment in which police officers are implicated. Does France share the view of the HR Committee that this may result in virtual impunity? Which measures does France undertake in this regard in order to ensure full compatibility with its obligations under article 12 of the ICCPR?
- It appears from para. 35 of the compilation that several treaty-based committees (HR Committee, CECSR, CRC and CERD) as well as the Independent Expert on minority issues have voiced concerns regarding both the French concept of minority rights and the related practice. In view of the fact that the French UPR report does not contain a section on minority rights, Germany would like to know how France is addressing the above concerns.

NETHERLANDS

- The Netherlands would like to learn from the French experience in regard to the application of the constitutional principles of citizenship and 'laïcité' and would be interested to know how these principles encourage equal chances of minority groups in practice.
- Could you please explain in which way supervision on the respect of human rights by the French foreign legion is assured?
- Does France envisage any deadline for meeting the international standards in prisons? And if in the affirmative, which ones?
- Does France consider introducing a policy of equal approach towards minorities in order to promote a better representation in elected positions, like the law stimulating an equal access of men and women (6 June 2000)?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Please could you elaborate further on the role civil society played in the preparation of your national report?
- We would like to ask what steps France has taken to combat various forms of discrimination, and for more details of the legislative and regulatory framework that has been put in place to tackle racism, anti-semitism and discrimination. In this regard, we would like to ask whether France intends to take steps to ensure more rigorous enforcement of current legislation and whether France would consider collecting statistics on the impact on minority ethnic groups to ensure that policies have real impact and can be evaluated?
- Please could you provide further information on France's efforts to tackle overcrowding in prisons, and the extended use of solitary confinement?
- Would France consider strengthening guarantees against human rights violations in third countries, including the use of torture?
- Could you tell us what plans France has to address reports of excessive police use of force, notably in detention centres and holding areas for migrants?
- Please could you provide further information on France's efforts to increase integration of ethnic minorities and disadvantaged groups into public service, the civil service, politics and judiciary, and to reduce discrimination in recruitment and employment?
- Please could you provide more information about the role of your national human rights institution and its conformity with the Paris Principles.