**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MALDIVES (FIRST BATCH)**

**SLOVENIA**

* Could the Government of Maldives provide information on the steps taken towards formal moratorium on executions, abolishment of the death penalty and ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?

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

* What action is being taken to further increase the independence, impartiality and competence of the judiciary in Maldives?
* What steps and measures are the Government of Maldives taking in response to allegations of torture and ill-treatment in prisons?
* Noting Maldives’ recent improvements in media freedom, what is the Government of Maldives doing to ensure freedom of expression and to create space for civil society organisations to continue to operate?
* What measures are being taken to ensure the equal participation of women in Maldivian society, both in regional and central government institutions and public office?
* What measures have the government taken to eliminate discrimination against migrant workers?

**GERMANY**

* Germany is concerned about the ban of the Maldivian Democracy Network (MDN). What were the results of the investigations that led to the suspension and subsequent ban.What are the plans for tackling radical influences while ensuring human rights compliance?
* Germany welcomes the establishment of the Special Commission on Deaths and Disappearances. Are the Maldives planning to publish reports and the current state of investigations, conducted by the commission? Are there plans to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance?
* Since Germany’s past recommendation regarding the ratification of the Convention and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees has not been implemented yet, what are the current plans on ratification?
* So far the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives has not abstained A status. What steps are planned to work towards obtaining A status?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* With no individuals yet convicted for the deaths of Yameen Rasheed or Ahmed Rilwan, what mechanisms are in place to ensure the Commission on Deaths and Disappearances, the judiciary, and the Maldivian authorities are able to, in aggregate, hold accountable those responsible for the killings of civil society actors?
* What steps is the Government of Maldives taking to improve the government registry process for disabled persons and their access to government services? What mechanisms are in place to prevent and prosecute abuses committed against disabled persons?
* As discrimination, harassment, and abuse against women continue in the workplace, the justice system, and across Maldivian society, what measures are in place to ensure that justice for affected women is credible, accessible, and implemented? What is the Government of Maldives doing to encourage and increase female political participation?
* The United States notes the concerns of NGOs and the ruling coalition who have claimed the Human Rights Commission of Maldives (HRCM) remains biased towards the former government. What is the government doing to ensure the independence of the HRCM?
* How is the government working to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of LGBTI persons? What steps is the Maldivian government taking to improve investigations of violence against LGBTI persons and to hold perpetrators accountable?
* What is the government of Maldives doing to improve inclusion of persons with disabilities in the National Registry and access to its related benefits, including social housing schemes and special reasonable accommodations during voting?
* As Maldives begins to reintegrate and rehabilitate Maldivian foreign terrorist fighters, what mechanisms are in place to ensure their humane treatment?
* How is the Government of Maldives protecting worker rights, particularly migrant workers, including the freedom of association and the right to bargain collectively?
* What has the Maldivian Government done to encourage freedom of association in the labor sector and in broader civil society?
* What commitments and initiatives has the Maldivian government taken to strengthen anti-human trafficking legislation and implementation, increase resources for investigating human trafficking cases and provide victim support?
* What has the Maldivian government done to protect Maldivians’ right to freedom of religion or belief, including the ability to worship free from interference, prevent violence motivated by religion, and hold perpetrators of such violence accountable?

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* Liechtenstein recognizes Maldives’ commitment to international criminal justice, as evidenced by its ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
* What steps has Maldives taken to ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression?
* What steps has Maldives taken towards the abolition of the death penalty?
* What steps has Maldives taken to ratify the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime?
* What steps has Maldives taken to ratify the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime?

**BELGIUM**

* Is the government of the Maldives considering ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolishment of the death penalty, the Convention for the protection of all persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights?
* Does the government of the Maldives intend to maintain the moratorium on the application of the death penalty and to commute death sentences to terms of imprisonment for all people on death row who were sentenced to death for crimes committed while under the age of 18?
* Does the government of the Maldives intend to respond positively to the request of the Working Group on Discrimination against Women to visit the country?
* What measures will the government of the Maldives take to ensure the effective implementation of the Gender Equality Act, the Domestic Violence Act and the Sexual Harassment and Abuse Prevention Act?
* How will the government of the Maldives ensure the protection of human rights defenders against intimidation, harassment and reprisals?

**URUGUAY**

* Uruguay congratulates Maldives for its efforts on obtaining the parliamentary ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as recommended by Uruguay in the second cycle of the UPR.

Uruguay would also appreciate information on the status of national discussions towards the signature and ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.