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

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* Noting with appreciation Tajikistan’s signing of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018, could the government share an update on its roadmap for ratifying the CRPD by 2024?  In which areas can the international community provide assistance to help Tajikistan achieve this goal?
* What steps or plans does Tajikistan have in place to address international concerns about restrictions on freedom of expression and repression of journalists?
* What laws does the government have in place to investigate, and if appropriate, hold accountable members of security forces who have reportedly subjected detainees to torture; cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment?
* What assistance can the international community provide to help improve the overcrowding and security challenges in Tajik prisons?
* What steps are the government taking to reconsider the sentences of political figures, including two individuals whose only crime appears to have been acting as lawyers for political figures?  These detentions reflect poorly on Tajikistan’s international reputation and moving to release such individuals would be beneficial.
* How is the government planning to implement the recommendations of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances following its 2019 visit to Tajikistan, including accounting for disappearances that occurred during the 1992-1997 civil war?
* Would the government consider specifically criminalizing domestic violence, which could lead to accountability for abusers and appropriate handling of cases of domestic violence by police and the judiciary?
* Would the government share its plan to roll back its use of Internet blackouts, blocking of some websites, and extensive surveillance of Internet activity?
* What is the government’s response to allegations that it targets political dissidents located outside the country?
* Would the government of Tajikistan consider adding gender and sexuality as protected classes in its draft anti-discrimination law?
* The move to criminalize "illegal" religious education will severely limit the freedom of religion and belief for most Tajiks.  Would the Tajik government reconsider this action given it goes against established international standards?
* What assistance does the government need from the international community to further reduce the use of forced and bonded labor, particularly in the fall cotton harvest but also in the production of dried fruit?

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* Liechtenstein recognizes Tajikistan's commitment to international criminal justice, as evidenced by its ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
* What steps has Tajikistan taken to ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression?
* What steps has Tajikistan taken to join the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as elaborated by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group (ACT)?
* What steps has Tajikistan 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?
* What steps has Tajikistan 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 Tajikistan taken towards the full and legal abolition of the death penalty?

**SLOVENIA**

* We would be interested to learn more about the intentions of Tajikistan on how to effectively combat domestic violence and adequately protect victims of domestic violence.