**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO BANGLADESH**Generated on 10 Nov 2023 15:05

**BELGIUM**

* Is the government of Bangladesh considering ratifying the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty?
* Will the government of Bangladesh issue a standing invitation to the UN Special Procedures and respond positively to the outstanding requests for country visits, including by the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances, the Special Rapporteur on internally displaced people and the Special Rapporteur on torture?
* Which measures will the government of Bangladesh take to provide an environment in which human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations can carry out their work independently and without fear of reprisals? Will Bangladesh release all those arbitrarily detained and investigate unlawful use of force by law enforcement officials against peaceful protestors?
* Which additional efforts will Bangladesh take to eradicate child marriage and strengthen the effective implementation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act? How will the government of Bangladesh implement the recommendation by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to ensure access to effective legal remedies as well as sexual and reproductive health information and services, in this context?
* Will Bangladesh withdraw its reservations to articles 2 and 16 (1) (c) of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention? Which measures will the government of Bangladesh take to ensure equality of women in matters of marriage, divorce, inheritance and child custody, as recommended by the CEDAW Committee?

**CANADA**

* Will Bangladesh withdraw its reservations to article 2 and article 16/1(c) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)?

**GERMANY**

* What concrete steps is Bangladesh taking towards the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED), the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT), and the First and Second Optional Protocols to the ICCPR?
* How is Bangladesh planning to improve religious freedom for people of all faiths, including non-Muslims?
* How is Bangladesh planning to respond to the outstanding request for visits by several UN special procedure mandate holders? Will Bangladesh be issuing a standing invitation?
* What steps will Bangladesh take to improve the rights and protection of LGBTIQ+ persons, human rights defenders and their organizations?

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* What steps has Bangladesh taken to ratify the Kampala Amendment to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression?
* What steps has Bangladesh taken to ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT)?
* What steps has Bangladesh taken to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty?
* What steps has Bangladesh taken to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure?
* What steps has Bangladesh taken towards the full and legal abolition of the death penalty?
* What steps has Bangladesh 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 Bangladesh taken to ratify the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Traf-ficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime?

**PANAMA**

* What steps is Bangladesh taking to tackle forced labour and trafficking in persons in order to achieve SDG target 8.7?
* What measures are put in place by Bangladesh to end harmful practices and gender-based discrimination?
* What efforts is Bangladesh undertaking to promote menstrual health and hygiene and prevent that girls and adolescents miss school because of menstruation?

**PORTUGAL**

* Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRFs (National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up): Could the State-under-review describe its national mechanism or process responsible for coordinating the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the monitoring of progress and impact?
* Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRFs (National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up): Has the State-under-review established a dedicated ‘national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up’ (NMIRF) covering UPR recommendations, but also recommendations/observations generated by the UN human rights Treaty Bodies, the Special Procedures and relevant regional mechanisms, which, inter alia, clusters all the above, manages them in national databases, coordinates implementation actions across government, monitors progress and impact, and then streamline reporting procedures back to the UN? If so, could the State-under-review briefly share its experience on creating such mechanism, including challenges faced and lessons learnt, as well as any plans or needs to strengthen the NMIRF in the future?

**SLOVENIA**

* What measures are in place to combat ageism and eliminate age discrimination in all its forms, and to protect the human rights of older persons?

**SPAIN**

* What measures is the Government taking to prevent child labor?
* What measures is the Government considering to protect human rights defenders to ensure that they can operate safely and without fear or oppression?
* Is the Government considering a reform of the police procedures in order to avoid excessive use of force during public demonstrations?

**SWEDEN**

* What mechanism has the Government put in place to ensure an open environment for human right defenders, civil society organisations and journalists and how has the Government addressed the concerns of the stakeholders regarding proposed laws and policies regarding civil society, journalists and media (CSA, PCA, MME, DPA and FDRA)?
* How is the Government of Bangladesh working towards decreasing the rate of child marriage? The rates are still among the highest in the world despite the Child Marriage Restraint Act (2017).
* What measures has the Government of Bangladesh taken to ensure the rights of the victims of violence against women and girls, including their access to justice, security, reparation and social integration?

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

* What is the government doing to promote transparency regarding historic and present allegations of human rights violations, in particular enforced disappearances, custodial torture and extra-judicial killings?
* How is the Government protecting journalists and the media from undue interference and harassment?
* What actions have been taken to ensure a free, fair, peaceful and participatory national election, underpinned by respect for rule of law, freedom of assembly and of expression, and the vital role of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society?
* What further steps is the Government taking to implement the 1997 Peace accord?
* Noting the Government’s previous commitment to protect vulnerable groups in Bangladesh, how does the government propose to protect ethnic and religious groups, girls and women, the disabled and the LGBT community who remain vulnerable in society?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* A vibrant civil society is essential to democratic societies. How is the Government of Bangladesh working to protect and enable the work of human rights defenders, including those from marginalized racial, ethnic, and Indigenous communities?
* We welcome Bangladesh’s progress on workers’ rights and hope to see the trend continue. What steps has the Government of Bangladesh taken to ensure that workers’ freedom of association is protected, particularly as pertains to establishing and joining labor unions?
* The ability of refugees to pursue livelihood opportunities reduces their vulnerability to exploitation and mitigates security concerns. It has also been shown to economically benefit host communities. Why does Bangladesh not allow Rohingya to seek temporary employment in their host communities?
* The United States is concerned about reports of harassment and the intimidation of candidates for election, protesters, and supporters of political parties. How is the Government of Bangladesh ensuring that Bangladeshis can peacefully participate in the electoral process without fear of reprisal?
* How is the Government of Bangladesh, in line with its democratic ideals, working to ensure equal opportunity for its citizens, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or sex characteristics?

**URUGUAY**

* During the third review cycle, Uruguay recommended to Bangladesh: “Establish a comprehensive national system for the protection of children to prevent and respond to violence against children, prohibit corporal punishment of children and implement awareness and education programmes in this area”. In this regard, ¿What measures has the State taken to move forward with the implementation of such a system? ¿Does the State have a record of the number of court sentences handed down for offences of corporal punishment of children, especially in education and early childhood care centers?