

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MYANMAR ADD.1

BELGIUM

- Does the Government of Myanmar consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), the Convention against Torture (CAT), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)?
- Does the Government of Myanmar consider ratifying the Statute of the International Criminal Court?
- Is the Government of Myanmar considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Which measures is the Government of Myanmar taking to end impunity for crimes committed by military personnel?
- Which measures is the Government of Myanmar taking to prevent the recruitment of children?
- Does the Government of Myanmar consider ratifying the Optional Protocol on Children and Armed Conflict to the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- Does the Government of Myanmar consider ratifying the Convention regarding the Status of Stateless persons as has been recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child?
- Is the Government of Myanmar considering enabling the domestic courts to invoke human rights instruments to interpret national norms even if the former are not incorporated into national legislation?
- Is the Government of Myanmar considering including an effective guarantee of substantive equality in its Constitution?
- What measures is the Government of Myanmar taking to protect the human rights of non-citizens?
- Is the Government of Myanmar considering reforming the 1982 Nationality Act to grant the Myanmar nationality to stateless, permanent residents?
- Is the Government of Myanmar considering granting Temporary Registration Cards to the Rohingya and to other stateless, permanent residents?
- Which initiatives is the Government of Myanmar taking to improve the quality of the education system and to ensure equal access of girls and women?

NORWAY

- At this stage in the political process in Myanmar, how will the Government ensure that that legal and legitimate political parties as well as civil society organizations will be able to voice their political opinions and assemble freely? We would also welcome information on any steps taken to ensure that human rights defenders can pursue their activities unhindered, including in terms of ensuring their safety, security and freedom of movement.
- We take note of the cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and UN agencies with regards to children's rights, hereunder the ILO complaints mechanism as well as the important objective of demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers. Would the Government be willing to consider further steps to improve child rights, such as appointing social workers and activating child rights committees at township, regional and national levels? Could support for such steps be further developed in cooperation with NGO and UN partners?
- We further note the reporting under the Convention of the Rights of the Child in 2009. How does the Government of Myanmar plan to follow up on the conclusions by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as well as those put forward by the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)? Would it be deemed relevant to review the Child Law in terms of increasing the age of criminal responsibility, prohibiting corporal punishment and increasing support to child victims and witnesses?
- The Special Rapporteur, the CRC and several reports of the civil society has expressed concern about the lack of independence of the judiciary. We would welcome information on the steps the Government is taking to ensure an independent and impartial judiciary.
- Several treaty bodies have expressed concerns about discrimination against ethnic minorities in Myanmar. We would appreciate information on the relevant steps that the Government may take to safeguard also the rights of ethnic and religious minorities.
- The National Report of Myanmar makes reference to the Myanmar Human Rights Body and relevant mechanisms. In this regard we would welcome specific examples of the activities carried out by the Myanmar Human Rights Body relating to "religious rights, right to development, and women and child rights" as mentioned in the National Report (para. 22). We would also welcome more detailed information about the mechanism which is said to allow citizens to make complaints about human rights violations to the Minister of Home Affairs in his capacity as the Chairman of the Myanmar Human Rights Body, as well as details of subsequent investigations and actions undertaken, as referenced in the National Report (para. 23).
- We note the steps the Government of Myanmar has taken in the preparations for the UPR-reporting process. How does the Government plan to ensure a

dialogue in the follow up of the recommendations of the Human Rights Council to include the full range of civil society?