

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

CZECH REPUBLIC

- What provisions have recently been or are being introduced to prevent and investigate cases of torture and extrajudicial killings and to fight impunity of persons responsible for these crimes?
- Is Burundi considering accession to OP-CAT?
- What steps can be taken to ensure that all new-born children are officially registered?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Could you elaborate on how the issue of land succession is being taken forward in order to enable women to inherit land and when legislation might be presented?
- Could you tell us what the government is doing to ensure that those responsible for human rights abuses are investigated and prosecuted, including when those abuses are committed by the police, the military or the security services?
- What progress has been made in the establishment of an Independent National Commission on Human Rights in accordance with the Paris principles and what barriers still remain? What steps is the Government taking to ensure the Commission's independence?
- When do you expect to reply to the request made by the Convention Against Torture that Burundi clarify the status of the Convention in domestic law? This would enable persons claiming to have been subjected to torture to invoke it before judicial and administrative authorities.
- What is the timetable for judicial and legal reforms, including the national consultations to establish transitional justice mechanisms and the revised criminal code?
- When do you envisage ending to the 'provisional' immunity measures that allowed former rebel groups and individuals to return to Burundi?
- Could you tell us what measures Burundi is taking to promote and protect freedom of opinion and expression and to assure freedom of assembly?
- Could you explain how Burundi is addressing the rising problem of sexual violence, including helping the victims and bringing the perpetrators to justice?
- Could you please elaborate further on the role and influence of civil society in the preparation of your national report for this process?

SWEDEN

- There are reports on gaps in rule of law and in access to justice in Burundi. While noting that impunity seems widespread we welcome further steps to end impunity including in relation to the massacres in Gatumba. Can the government of Burundi elaborate on what measures it is taking to ensure access to justice, the rule of law and to end impunity in public administration in general and corruption in the justice system in particular?
- Reports show problems with discrimination against women and that the already high number of rapes is increasing. Meanwhile, a new law giving women right to property and of inheritance has been suggested, and a law regarding violence against women is being prepared. Can the government of Burundi elaborate on its work for gender equality and the proposed legal changes, in particular regarding women's right to inheritance and women's access to land, and on what kind of measures are taken in regard to rapes, including changes in attitudes and behaviour of men? Is there any work foreseen to organise support and care for rape victims?