**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NEPAL (THIRD BATCH)**

**PANAMA**

* In the second cycle, Panama recommended Nepal to study the possibility of the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. We would appreciate if Nepal could provide updated information on the progress made in the implementation of this recommendation.
* According to reports, suicide was one of the leading causes of unnatural death in young people. What steps is Nepal taking to prevent suicides, raise awareness on this problem and to integrate mental health within its general health system?
* What is Nepal undertaking to adopt targeted measures to promote the empowerment and full, equal and meaningful participation of women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, Dalits and underrepresented castes in political and public life, including their representation in decision-making bodies?
* The CERD recommended that Nepal ensure that law enforcement officers properly investigated racist hate crimes, organizations and hate speech, and conduct awareness-raising programmes to eliminate caste-based and racial hatred at the community level. What efforts are being made towards this end?
* We note with appreciation that Nepal has accepted the request for country visits by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty. Does Nepal intend to respond positively to the request of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material?