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

**PANAMA**

* Does Oman intend to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the ILO Convention No. 189 on domestic workers, as well as the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness? Could Oman share information on the challenges and obstacles that prevent the country to join these instruments?
* The CERD and the CRPD recommended that Oman continue to consult and expand its dialogue with civil society organizations working in the area of human rights protection and that Oman introduce the necessary changes and adopt specific measures, including by amending the Civil Associations Act (2000), to create and ensure an enabling environment in which civil society organizations freely conducted their activities. We would appreciate if Oman could provide updated information on the progress made in the implementation of this recommendation.
* We would be grateful to know about ongoing efforts undertaken by Oman to eliminate all harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child and/or forced marriage, and to provide appropriate redress mechanisms accessible to all women and girls who were victims of harmful practices.
* What steps have been taken to address child labour in the formal and informal sectors and to fully align the national legislation with the provisions of the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography?
* In its national report, Oman makes several pledges, including to continue to cooperate in the area of human rights with agencies, mechanisms and committees of the United Nations in order to facilitate their activities and the implementation of their programmes, and to meet its obligations towards those agencies and mechanisms. Is Oman considering extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures of the Human Rights Council? Does Oman intend to respond positively to the request of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance?