

## ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO FIJI – ADD.2

### **ARGENTINA**

- La Argentina querría preguntar qué medidas está tomando el gobierno a fin de que la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de Fiji cumpla con los Principios de París relativos al estatuto y funcionamiento de las Instituciones Nacionales de Protección Promoción de los Derechos Humanos?La Argentina desea preguntar cuáles fueron los resultados obtenidos a partir de la implementación de medidas de promoción de la equidad de género.

[Informal translation provided by Argentina]

- Argentina would like to ask what measures is the government taking, in order to comply with the Paris Principles relating to the status and functioning of National Institutions for the Protection of Human Rights.Argentina would like to ask what are the results obtained from the implementation of measures aimed at promoting gender equity.

### **NETHERLANDS**

- Could the government indicate when the Interim Government of Fiji is planning to lift the restrictions that have been placed on the freedom of association, movement and speech by the Public Emergency Regulation 2009?
- During the coup d'état of December 2006 the Senate and the House of Representatives were disbanded and during the coup of April 2009 the judiciary was dismissed. How will the Interim Government of the Republic of Fiji ensure the election of a new legislative power and the reinstatement of an independent judiciary?
- Could the Interim Government of Fiji indicate whether it is considering becoming party to other human rights conventions or optional protocols? And if so, how can the international community assist the Interim Government in these matters?
- The Governments of Fiji have in the past submitted reports on the treaties it had ratified. Although some reports are overdue it is welcomed that these reports are or have been submitted. It is also noted that the visit of the Rapporteur for the Working Group on the use of mercenaries was received by Fiji and enjoyed excellent cooperation. However, there are also some requests from UN special mechanisms that deserve immediate attention, such as the requests for visits by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers and the Special Rapporteur on torture an other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Could the Interim Government agree to a visit of these Rapporteurs in 2010?
- Since the coup of April 2009 The Netherlands has serious concerns about the

position of human rights defenders. There have been reports of several incidents whereby people were intimidated, arrested or pressured by Government forces to stop their work. While there are also reports that some human rights defenders have become targets in legal proceedings that have no other meaning but to silence their voices. How will the Interim Government ensure that the safety and security of human rights defenders is guaranteed to enable them to do their work freely?

- Since April 2009 there have been reports of incidents whereby persons in Government service have been forced to participate in religious ceremonies of religious denominations they themselves did not follow. There have also been reports about severe restrictions on religious gatherings. How does the Interim-Government aim to ensure the freedom of religion or belief of all the peoples of Fiji?

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