**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MAURITANIA (FIRST BATCH)**

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* What steps has Mauritania taken to join the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as elaborated by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group (ACT)?
* What steps has Mauritania taken to ratify the Rome Statute in its 2010 version?
* What steps has Mauritania taken towards the abolition of the death penalty?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* Have judicial reforms to strengthen the anti-slavery courts and combat human trafficking been implemented? If so, what are the successes to date? What are the biggest challenges?
* What actions is your government taking to increase the availability of public defenders, computerize court records, and ensure that the justice system is more accessible to rural populations?
* With an increasing amount of the government budget being diverted to COVID-19, how does Mauritania plan to ensure that programs which protect human rights are adequately funded?
* What is the government of Mauritania doing to reduce discrimination against and increase accessibility for persons with disabilities in the country’s social, economic and educational systems?
* What action is your government taking to reform laws that currently restrict freedom of expression? What is your government doing to promote the right to freedom of expression on both traditional and digital platforms in addition to promoting an independent media?
* The United States is concerned about laws that criminalize private, consensual same-sex activity and discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI). How is the government working to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of LGBTI persons?
* The United States is concerned by the continued existence and application of laws that criminalize blasphemy and apostasy, and which characterize those offenses as being punishable by death. What actions is your government taking to reform the legal system to remove these criminal laws and to otherwise ensure that the right to freedom of religion or belief is guaranteed for all?

**POLAND**

* Poland would like to thank the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for its comprehensive national report and for its efforts to implement recommendations from the previous UPR. Appreciating the progress made, in line with HRC Presidential Statement PRST8/1 of April 2008 and in line with the established practice we would like to pose the following questions in advance to the Government of Mauritania:

1. In its national report Mauritania underlines its determination and efforts with regard to combatting violence against women and children, strengthening women’s position in public and political spheres and fostering their entrepreneurship. Acknowledging steps already taken by Mauritania thus far, what other legal and practical measures are undertaken and are planned to be taken in order to fully eradicate – apart from the already existing legislation – cases of female genital mutilation reported in the country?

2. While appreciating the fact that since 1987 Mauritania exercises moratorium on death penalty, Poland would like to obtain information on the full list of crimes which are still punishable with a possible death sentence in Mauritania. Moreover, Poland would like to learn if there have been any steps taken by Mauritanian authorities in order to limit the number of crimes punishable with death penalty and whether Mauritania conducts any work on its accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.