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

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

* When will the Government of Mauritania abolish the death penalty, and will the government ensure that the current de facto moratorium on the death penalty will remain in place and extend to cases of apostasy and blasphemous speech?
* Will the Government of Mauritania conduct an evaluation of the measures and strategies in place to end the practice of female genital mutilation, including identifying the areas in which further legislative and social measures are needed to end this practice throughout Mauritanian society?
* What steps will the Government of Mauritania take to support the adoption in 2021 of proposed legislation to combat sexual and gender-based violence, including the practices of early or forced marriage and of leblouh/gavage, by the National Assembly, and ensure its entry into force without delay?
* What steps is the Government of Mauritania taking to implement fully its anti-trafficking national action plan to eliminate all forms of slavery, including hereditary slavery and forced labour and ensure traffickers and those holding people in slavery are investigated and prosecuted?
* What steps and measures will the Government of Mauritania take to protect and promote the right to freedom of expression and association, and to guarantee that journalists and civil society organisations are able to operate free from undue interference and harassment?

**BELGIUM**

* Bien que la Belgique se réjouit du moratoire sur la peine de mort en place depuis 1987, mon pays se montre préoccupé par l’élargissement du champ d’application sans possibilité pour le juge ou pour l’autorité suprême de commuer la sentence. Est-ce que la Mauritanie compte à terme modifier la législation, limitant la peine de mort aux crimes les plus graves, pour se conformer aux dispositions du Pacte international relatif aux droits civils et politiques?
* Au-delà des efforts déjà déployés en vue d’améliorer les droits des femmes et des filles, quelles initiatives législatives et de sensibilisation le gouvernement prépare-t-il encore à cet égard?
* Concernant le projet de loi contre les violences basées sur le genre adopté par le gouvernement mauritanien au printemps 2020, serait-il possible de fournir plus d’informations sur l’état actuel du processus d’adoption ainsi que sur les défis à surmonter?
* La Belgique a pris bonne note de l’engagement du Gouvernement mauritanien contre les séquelles de l’esclavage et en vue de mettre fin à l’exclusion qui en découle. Quels sont les projets concrets de l’agence nationale Taazour en vue d’aider à la réinsertion des victimes dans la société mauritanienne?
* En référence au code de la nationalité, en particulier les articles 13, 15, 16 et 18, est-ce que le gouvernement de la Mauritanie envisage d’entamer une procédure législative instaurant une équité entre les hommes et les femmes en matière d’octroi de la nationalité et de l’état civil des enfants?

**PANAMA**

* In the second UPR of Mauritania, Panama recommended to consider the possibility of ratifying ILO Convention 189 on domestic workers. We would appreciate information on the status of the ratification process.
* We welcome Mauritania’s decision to accept requests for visits from the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, as indicated in paragraph 80 of its national report. Is Mauritania considering extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures of the Human Rights Council?
* What measures have been taken to adopt a multisectoral approach to end the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM), including its criminalization, the provision ofmedico-psychosocial care for FGM survivors, the promotion of awareness-raising campaigns and the change of social norms, among others?
* How does Mauritania protect human rights defenders and journalists, and ensure that they are able to conduct their work in a safe environment, free from intimidation, harassment, discrimination, and reprisals?
* We note that Mauritania had made significant progress to combat all forms of slavery, including the road map for the eradication of contemporary forms of slavery and the law adopted in 2015 that criminalized slavery, among other initiatives. Despite this, reports indicate that slavery or slave-like practices persisted throughout the country. We would appreciate if Mauritania could provide information on the measures put in place to ensure that the perpetrators of slavery are investigated, prosecuted, convicted and sentenced, and to provide assistance and support to victims of slavery, as well as the role of non-governmental organizations and all civil society actors in these efforts.

**GERMANY**

* Germany welcomes the establishment of a national observatory for the rights of women and girls and would like inquire to what extent the observatory has improved the situation of women and girls, especially with regard to the still widespread practice of female genital mutilation?
* Germany welcomes the efforts to adopt a law combatting violence against women and girls. What is the government’s approach to ensure that negotiations continue and that the new law is adopted swiftly?
* What measures are envisaged to improve social cohesion between the different communities (taking into account the grave human rights violations that happened between 1989 and 1991) and to eliminate all forms of discrimination?

**CANADA**

* Noting with concern that one-third of Mauritanian girls are married before the age of 18, what measures has Mauritania taken to combat early marriages?