

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ANDORRA – Add.1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Please could you provide information whether an independent body has been/is planned to be established in order to investigate complaints against members' of the police force misconducts?
- How the equality of treatment of foreign nationals legally and effectively resident in Andorra is guaranteed in matter such as access to social assistance? Does the Government of Andorra plan to lift an additional condition such as length of residence or other conditions, which are difficult for foreigners to meet in order to access to social assistance?

GERMANY

- In 2006, the Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned that the recruitment of children is not explicitly mentioned as a crime in Andorra's criminal code. It recommended that Andorra take the necessary legislative measures to criminalize recruitment of children and for this crime to be included in article 8, paragraph 8 of its Criminal Code, which establishes extraterritorial jurisdiction. Germany would like to know if Andorra followed this recommendation.

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 72 countries from different regions of the world have issued standing invitations to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council. While no requests have been made by special procedures mandate holders to visit Andorra – would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the future?

NETHERLANDS

ICESCR

- In light of the universality and indivisibility of all human rights, does the Government of Andorra plan to ratify the ICESCR in the near future?

Sexual and reproductive health

- With reference to paragraph 6 of the OHCHR compilation in which concerns are expressed about the negative effects of punitive laws governing abortion, is the Government of Andorra willing to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women through the decriminalisation of abortion?

Domestic violence

- The Netherlands welcomes the foundation of the *Equipe d'attention intégrale en faveur des femmes victimes de violence* (EAID) in December 2006 which, as

mentioned in paragraph 26 of the national report, helps women and children who have suffered from domestic violence, and also welcomes the subsequent establishment of safe shelters for women. Could the Government of Andorra explain to what extent this has increased the willingness of victims to press charges and does the Government intend to take further measures to this end in the near future ?

Raonador del Ciutadà

- In light of the intention of the Government of Andorra, stated in paragraph 100 of the national report, to give children access to the complaints procedure of the *Raonador del Ciutadà*, without interference of their parents, which measures does the Government of Andorra intend to take to make this mechanism known to children in order to ensure that they will be able to make full use of their rights?

Minimum wage

- The Netherlands welcomes the adoption of the Employment Contracts Act that is mentioned in paragraph 58 and 59 of the national report, which has established the right of collective bargaining and the right to form trade unions, as laid down in article 23.4, UDHR. In this light, and with a view of achieving a decent standard of living for a worker and his or her family, is the Government of Andorra willing to consider raising the minimum wage?

Pre-trial detention

- With the aim guaranteeing the rights of people deprived of their liberty, which measures has the Government of Andorra taken to reduce length of pre-trial detention?

SLOVENIA

- Could you please share best practices regarding Andorra's international cooperation carried out on behalf of children provided by the Principality of Andorra in cooperation with non-governmental organizations; and international and bilateral technical activities aimed at preventing involvement of children in armed conflicts?

SWEDEN

- In its latest consideration in 2002 of Andorra, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) noted concern at whether the principles of non-discrimination (art. 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child), the best interests of the child (art. 3), the right to life, survival and development of the child (art.6) and respect for the views of the child (art. 12) are fully reflected in Andorra's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels. The CRC also encouraged Andorra to continue and complete its review of legislation relevant to children to ensure full compliance with the Convention. Furthermore, corporal punishment remains lawful in the home in Andorra, a

practice which the CRC has concluded contradicts the Convention on the Rights of Child.

Could the Government of Andorra elaborate on measures it is taking to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including what measures the government is taking to ensure the freedom of children from physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation in accordance with the Convention?

- Sweden welcomes Andorra's ratification in 2006 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. In its national report to the UPR, Andorra outlined measures in place with regard to non-citizens, including with regard to ensuring school attendance by children of foreign residents. At the same time, civil society and other human rights organisations have noted areas of concern with regard to undue discrimination of non-citizens in other areas, such as in the denial of the right to vote in local elections by foreign residents.

Could the government of Andorra elaborate on additional measures, beyond what is mentioned in its national UPR report, with regard to ensuring the enjoyment of human rights by non-citizens, such as on any plans to allow foreign residents to vote in local elections?