

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MOROCCO

GERMANY

- What are the plans of the GoM to accelerate the adoption of the announced press law (“code de la presse”)?
- Does the GoM intend to implement the recommendation of the /Instance Equité et Reconciliation/ (IER) to give greater prominence to human rights in the constitution and other laws?

IRELAND

- What measures have been taken to ensure full enjoyment of the freedoms of expression, assembly and association, with particular regard to the right to protest?
- What measures have been taken to promote the role of human rights defenders, through education and inclusion in decision-making, in particular amongst national authorities, law enforcement officials and security officers?
- What measures have been put in place to support the work of human rights defenders, including in Western Sahara?

ITALY

- While commending Morocco for the de facto moratorium on executions in place since 1994, international NGOs report that 133 people are detained in the death row. Is Morocco foreseeing any new step regarding to the death penalty after the adoption of the recent UN General Assembly Resolution on a universal moratorium on the use of the death penalty?
- We are pleased to note that Morocco included in its pledges for the candidacy to the Human Rights Council a wide reference to the rights of migrants. Could Morocco further clarify its initiatives in this field, as briefly highlighted in its national report on UPR?

SWEDEN

- The UN General Assembly has affirmed that efforts against terrorism must be carried out with full respect for human rights. The 2003 anti-terrorism law in Morocco stipulated a number of special provisions, including extended periods of detention. The law has also stipulated a definition of the term “terrorism” which civil society organisations have argued is insufficiently clear. What measures is the government of Morocco taking to ensure that its work against terrorism is in line with its human rights obligations?
- In 2007, the government of Morocco announced that it would propose a reform of existing press legislation. Civil society organisations have expressed

the hope that any such reform would eliminate current regulations that do not conform to international standards for the freedom of expression, including provisions allowing for imprisonment for certain offenses. Could the government of Morocco elaborate on its plans for press law reform and any other measures it is taking to ensure full respect for the freedom of expression in accordance with international standards?

PORTUGAL

- Portugal welcomes the decision taken by the Government of Morocco to elaborate a National Action Plan for the promotion and protection of Human Rights. We would like to underline that the sense of ownership is vital to the positive outcome of any given policy in every society. We would therefore appreciate further information on how the Government of Morocco intends to implicate its civil society in this process?