

## ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO GHANA Add.1

### **GERMANY**

- It appears from the compilation prepared by OHCHR (A/HRC/WG.6/2/GHA/2), para. 18, as well as from the submissions made by stakeholders, paras.16-17, that trafficking in persons, in particular child trafficking remains a serious issue of concern. The necessary legislation has been provided with the "Human Trafficking Act" of 2005. How can the implementation of the Human Trafficking Act be improved in order to better address and fight the issue of human trafficking ?
- The stakeholders submission provides the information that human rights are severely affected by large-scale mining operations, paras. 33-37, especially as among the consequences of those operations were forced evictions, loss of access to safe drinking water or access to farm land. What measures is the Ghanaese Government prepared to take to protect the rights, including the Economic, social and cultural rights, of those affected by large scale mining?

### **NETHERLANDS**

- An important aspect of access to justice and prevention of human rights violations is the education of the public to know their rights and demand them. What is done by the government of Ghana to reach out to the general public to know their rights and to know how to obtain access to justice, even if there is a lack of financial means?
- An important tool to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading forms of treatment or punishment is the instrument of regular visits to prisons by independent international and national bodies. Ghana signed the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture (OPCAT) on 6 November 2006. What is the current state of affairs of the ratification of this important human rights instrument?
- How is the government of Ghana addressing the apparent lack of confidence in the police system which encourages "mob justice" by the public?
- What is Ghana's main strategy in tackling the cultural challenges related to human rights violations, such as the persistence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), the *trokosi* system and the witch camps?
- With elections foreseen in December 2008, and Ghana's intentions on the promotion of women in governance (affirmative action policy of 1998), what is the Government of Ghana doing in order to increase the number of women that participate in government and parliament?