

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MALI Add.1

GERMANY

- With regard to part 9, 1 of the compilation prepared by OHCHR (A/HRC/WG.6/2/MLI/2), Germany notes with concern that despite efforts made in strengthening the human rights protection for women according to UNICEF women continue to be the object of persistent discrimination, violence and marginalization. What measures are envisaged to be taken by the Mali Government to improve this situation ?
- Germany notes with appreciation the high number of human rights conventions ratified by Mali and the policy measures designed to improve the human rights situation in the country. Among them is the recent establishment of a national human rights institution. Are there still obstacles for this institution to fully take up its mandate ?

NETHERLANDS

- In september 2007, at the occasion of the celebration of the 47th anniversary of the independence of Mali, President Touré expressed his will to present, as soon as possible, two draft laws to parliament on the Family Code and abolition of the death penalty. A draft law on the abolition of the death penalty has already been presented to parliament. Consultations with a broad representation of the Malian society have taken place on the draft Family Code in the first three months of this year.
- Q: When does the government intend to present the draft law on the Family Code to parliament?
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is still widespread in Mali, despite all efforts and measures taken by the government.
- Q: Does the government intend to enact legislation prohibiting all forms of FGM in Mali, as recommended by organisations like HR-Committee, Committee on the Elimination of the Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRS)?
- The actual government has shown real political will to relaunch the reform of the justice sector to improve its credibility and efficiency. One of the proposals in the reform programme is to set up centers for information and (free) assistance to citizens. A few of these centers are actually in place, often in collaboration with civil society organisations.
- Q: What is the timeschedule for putting in place such centers in the whole country as foreseen in the reform programme PRODEJ?