

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MONTENEGRO – ADDENDUM

DENMARK

- Despite Montenegro's "Strategy for Resolving the Issues of Displaced Persons in Montenegro 2005", the authorities so far have largely failed in issuing refugees with personal documentation to ensure that they have access to social, economic, civil and political rights. What initiatives will be taken by the Government of Montenegro to ensure that refugees and internally displaced persons may obtain personal documents?
- Article 7 of the Law on Minority Rights and freedom notes that Roma are not sufficiently integrated into social and political life and that, therefore, the Government should adapt a strategy aiming at promoting decent living conditions and their full integration. How will the Government of Montenegro ensure a better integration of the Roma in the Montenegrin society?
- The Montenegrin ombudsman has generally been strengthened, including by creating two deputy posts, one on minority rights and one on children's rights. However about 40 % of the complaints received by the ombudsman still needs to be resolved and the reporting from the ombudsman office needs to become more focused. What initiatives will be taken by the Government of Montenegro to ensure that the ombudsman function is further strengthened?
- Reliable reports from civil society indicate that many abuses by the police, especially before trial, are not investigated. What do you intend to do about this?

GERMANY

- Germany welcomes the measures undertaken by the GoM to improve the participation of Roma children in primary education. Could the delegation elaborate on specific measures implemented and evaluate the success of these measures with a view to identifying further actions necessary to significantly ameliorate the participation of members of the Roma community in education?

NETHERLANDS

- Under chapter G (Special Minority Rights), it is mentioned that the Montenegrin Constitution guarantees to the members of minority groups the right to be authentically represented in the Parliament.

Could Montenegro explain how these rights are guaranteed under the new electoral law?

SWEDEN

- Corruption is reported to be a widespread problem in Montenegro, and combined with documented shortcomings in the judicial system, it seems to threaten democratic progress. Political influence over courts and the police, inefficiency in the judicial system and capacity-problems - for example regarding education of legal personnel - seem to be part of the ongoing problems. How is the government working to end reported impunity with regard to the crime of rape and crimes relating to trafficking? Can the government of Montenegro elaborate on any initiatives taken to ensure the independence, effectiveness and quality of the judicial system?
- Reports show that there is a high number of cases of threats and brutality towards journalists, human rights defenders and persons connected to the opposition. What measures are being taken by the government regarding these problems and how is the freedom of expression and the freedom of press guaranteed?
