

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO KIRIBATI

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Does the Government of Kiribati intend to accede to the core international human rights treaties, such as e.g. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights? Does the Government consider withdrawing its numerous reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- Has the Government of Kiribati considered issuing a standing invitation to Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council?
- Does the Government consider including sexual orientation and gender as protected grounds into its anti-discrimination clause in the Constitution?
- Does the Government consider introducing the domestic violence as a crime into its criminal laws? What support and protection is provided to victims of domestic violence?
- What specific measures have been taken to strengthen protection of children against sexual abuse?

DENMARK

- What is the perspective of amending the Constitution in order to provide women with legal recourse against customs and customary laws that discriminate against them on the basis of gender?
- What will Kiribati do to promote equal citizenship rights for women and their families?
- What are the progresses of the Child Protection Legislative reform, which was commenced in January this year?
- When does Kiribati intend to adhere to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?

LATVIA

- According to the information by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 67 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 Kiribati – would your country consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the future?

SLOVENIA

- Kiribati is a party to only two core universal human rights treaties. Does the Government plan to ratify further core universal human rights treaties?
- Following the summary of stakeholders` submissions there is no specific disability legislation in Kiribati. We would like to know if the Government plans to create disability legislation in the near future.
- What plans does the Government have to provide improved teaching and learning facilities and resources for its schools?

SWEDEN

- Kiribati ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2004. Nevertheless, reports indicate that violence and discrimination against women remain a problem. Although rape and all other forms of assault are illegal, prosecutions for rape and domestic assault are infrequent. It also appears that Kiribati law does not prohibit sexual harassment and that the Citizenship Act contains some discriminatory provisions.

Could the Government elaborate on what measures, including in the legislative field, are taken to ensure women their human rights on a basis of equality with men?

- Sweden also notes the continued reports on alcohol-related physical and sexual child abuse and concerns of child prostitution raised by the UNICEF and international NGO:s.
- What measures are taken to prevent and address child abuse and child prostitution?

UNITED KINGDOM

- The UK would be most grateful if Kiribati could please elaborate on the role played by civil society in the preparation of its national report?
- We would be grateful to know what plans Kiribati has to sign, ratify and implement the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of Children?
- Could you please elaborate on what measures Kiribati is taking to combat gender-based violence and discrimination, what protection and services are offered to victims of domestic violence, and how the government proposes to tackle negative perceptions of women in Kiribati society?

- We would be interested to know to what extent the Government is considering changes to the traditional response (of - te kabara bure – a formal apology) to crimes of sexual abuse, to instead impose mandatory prosecution or minimum sentences for sexual assault offences?
- Could you please clarify whether Kiribati has a standing invitation to special procedures to visit, and if not whether the government is considering extending one?
- We should be interested to know to what extent the Government of Kiribati has sought international assistance to realise its obligations to protect human rights and overcome capacity challenges in implementing legislation?
