

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SWEDEN

ALGERIA

- The CERD expressed concerns about discrimination in the judicial and law enforcement systems against persons of non- Swedish background.

What measures will Sweden take against this form of discrimination?

- The special Rapporteur on violence against women considered that the Government, civil society and the media should strengthen existing efforts to prevent violence against women by addressing its roots causes.

Could Sweden indicate what possible actions it is considering?

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Does the Government of Sweden consider withdrawing its reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)?
- How is ensured compliance of the definition of torture in the national legislation with that in art. 1 of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
- How is ensured that no evidence obtained through torture or other ill treatment may be used before the court?

DENMARK

- What is the state of affairs concerning the political rights of the Same people and its access to local natural resources?
- How have the changes made to the structure of the Swedish anti-discrimination authorities (the new Equality Ombudsman) effected the protection of religious minorities?

NORWAY

- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to which Sweden is a State Party, are not yet incorporated into Swedish law. Are there any plans for such incorporation?
- Sweden has through the recent Anti-discrimination Act which entered into force in 2009 strengthened the combat of discrimination on inter alia grounds of ethnic

origin. What additional measures are envisaged in order to further strengthen the civil rights of the Sami people in Sweden?

- Norway considers the Swedish Act prohibiting the purchase of sexual services as commendable. What additional measures have been taken in order to promote women's legal protection against sexual abuse and violence.
- National and international reports indicate a certain de facto discrimination of persons of foreign origin with regard to inter alia the Swedish labour market, the area of health and in the housing sector. Recent events in certain Swedish suburbs have also spurred discussions on the situation for younger persons with an immigrant background. What is the Swedish government's assessment of the situation for these persons when it comes to discrimination in different areas such as education, health, employment and housing?

SLOVENIA

- What measures has Sweden undertaken to prevent, combat and prosecute hate speech, having in mind the multiracial, multicultural and multilingualistic contemporary Sweden?
- How Sweden intends to implement the recommendation of the ICJ to review the law and practice of »exceptional« lengthy detention of asylum seekers and impose maximum limitations on such detention?
- According to the data available, homeless migrant children in Sweden only have a right to urgent medical care, for which they must pay the full fee. We would kindly ask Sweden for clarification on this matter.

SWITZERLAND

- Stakeholders reported that very few prosecutions were engaged against persons holding discourses amounting to incitement to hatred (judicial procedures were engaged in only 6 out of 155 cases of incitement to hatred against ethnic minorities reported in 2007).

What are the measures taken by the Swedish authorities to fight impunity, especially in relation to incitement to hatred?

- The national report indicates that the draft of the new Education Act "puts an even greater emphasis than before on human rights as one of the fundamental values on which the school system is founded".

Is Human Rights Education as such included in the school programmes ?

Are there any plans to train persons in charge of children and young people in human rights, including on the Convention on the Rights of the Child?

UNITED KINGDOM

- We would be grateful if you could provide information on the extent to which Civil Society was consulted in the preparation of your national report? Will you consult civil society in follow-up to this review?
- Please could you let us know what action the Government of Sweden will take to ensure the continued existence & independence of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, especially after the Delegation of Human Rights completes its mandate in September 2010?
- We would be grateful to know what timeframe the Swedish Government has in mind for the implementation of legislation further to protect the rights of unaccompanied and migrant children?
- What plans does the Swedish government have to promote the rights of those belonging to its indigenous communities, especially in relation to the Sámi population? What impact does the Government expect implementation of the proposed Swedish Sámi bill to have?
- What are the next steps Sweden will take to reinforce existing legislation on domestic violence towards women?
