

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SURINAME – Add.1

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Suriname considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Is the Government of Suriname considering ratifying the human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party, like the Convention against Torture, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol on Children and Armed Conflict to the Convention on the Rights of the Child?
- Is the Government of Suriname considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under the human rights treaties to which it is a party?

CZECH REPUBLIC

- What steps has the Government of Suriname taken to establish a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights?
- Does the Government of Suriname intend to raise a minimum age for criminal responsibility that is now 10 years?
- While we note that Suriname has not carried out judicial executions for almost 80 years, the death penalty remains on the statute books for the offences of aggravated murder, premeditated murder and treason. In this regard we would like to know whether Suriname intends to abolish the capital punishment.

NETHERLANDS

- Paragraph 130 of the national report refers to the initiatives that the Maroons and the Indigenous people have taken against the government of Suriname for failing to protect their collective rights. It continues by stating that Suriname was judged in 2007 by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to recognize among other things the collective rights to land of the Saramaccaners, a Maroon tribe. What concrete steps will Suriname take to implement the verdict of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding logging and mining concessions on the territory of the Saramaccanerspeople? More specifically: When will Suriname enshrine the recognition of collective land rights of indigenous and Maroon groups in the Surinamese legal framework?
- The Netherlands would like to compliment Suriname with the significant improvements of the justice system that have taken place over the past few years. Hopefully an amendment to Penal Law, which has been drafted a couple of years ago, will take effect soon, so that (among other improvements)

the death penalty will disappear from the statute books once and for all. What steps will Suriname take to speed up the approval of pending amendments to the Penal Law?

- The Netherlands takes note of the beginning of the OHCHR-report which states that Suriname has over the years been encouraged to consider ratifying CAT, ICRMW, OP-CEDAW, OP-CRC-SC, CPRD en OP-CRPD. Does the government of Suriname have the desire to do so? If so, when will this take place? If not, why not? Is Suriname prepared to repeal "dead letter laws" restricting family planning activities and abortion services, as CEDAW recommended in January 2007?
- Unfortunately, the national report does not address the position of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transsexual people. What measures does the Surinamese government take to protect the rights of sexual minorities and to promote their emancipation? Is the government of Suriname prepared to work towards equal rights for LGBT in Suriname, for example regarding medical decision making, insurance claims, the age of consent, etc? Is Suriname prepared to show its commitment to the protection of LGBT rights and sign the United Nations Declaration on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity?

NORWAY

- Even though Suriname has expressed an intention of ratifying the ILO Convention No. 169, it is yet to be done. Within what time frame does Suriname intend to ratify and implement ILO Convention No. 169?
- What measures have been taken to ensure the indigenous people and maroon's right to land, following the "Samaaka los judgment" in 2007? What have been the government's main actions, and how will the government continue to work to ensure compliance with the judgment of the Inter-American Court?
- One of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to the government of Suriname in 2007 was that Suriname as soon as possible should establish an Ombudsperson or other independent body for monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Does the government intend to act in compliance with this recommendation, and what are the concrete steps taken until now?
- What measures does the Suriname government intend to take to ensure equal treatment and prevent discrimination of individuals regardless of their sexual orientation?

SLOVENIA

- What steps has the government envisioned in order to further improve accessibility and quality of (primary) education?
- What steps have been taken with regard to the elimination of violence against children?