

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES –**

### **Add.1**

#### **BELGIUM**

- Is the Government of Saint Vincent & the Grenadines considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures?
- Is the Government of Saint Vincent & the Grenadines considering accepting the individual complaints procedure under those human rights treaties to which it is a party?
- Is the Government of Saint Vincent & the Grenadines considering ratifying the optional protocols of the human rights treaties to which it is already a party?
- A considerable number of reports from Saint Vincent & the Grenadines to the treaty bodies are overdue. What measures has Saint Vincent & the Grenadines taken to remedy this?

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

- What steps has the Government 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 consider abolishing the death penalty?
- While acknowledging the efforts made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to build a new State prison, the Human Rights Committee expressed its concern over ongoing prison overcrowding and poor prison conditions as well as the high rate of incarceration in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. It noted with concern the continuing practice of imprisoning juvenile and adult offenders in the same premises. How does the Government address HR Committee's concerns?
- The Corporal Punishment of Juveniles Act permitted a male juvenile (under 16) convicted of a crime to be caned. Corporal punishment is lawful as a disciplinary measure in penal institutions. Corporal punishment is also lawful in alternative care settings under article 8 of the Juveniles Act. The Juveniles Act and the Juveniles (Approved Schools) Rules allow it to be administered on boys within approved schools. Does the Government consider prohibiting all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home?
- Does the Government consider repealing all provisions which may be applied to criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults to bring its legislation into conformity with its commitment to equality and non-discrimination, and its international human rights obligations?

- The Human Rights Committee was also concerned that the Debtors Act, Cap. 86, section 4, permits imprisonment for debt in some civil cases. Does Saint Vincent and the Grenadines plan to review the legislation permitting imprisonment for default in civil matters, to comply with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?

## **MALDIVES**

- In 2002, the Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines undertake a study on child abuse and neglect. Has such a study been conducted and if so, what were the conclusions and actions flowing there from?
- What are the impacts of climate change on the effective enjoyment of human rights in the country?
- What steps is the Government taking to respond to reported high rates of violence against women?
- What were the human rights changes to the Constitution foreseen in the 2009 referendum, and why do the authorities believe the public votes against the changes?

## **SLOVENIA**

- What measures have been taken by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in order to improve food security, especially with regard to children?

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

- We welcome the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadine's commitment to human rights and the progress it has been making in ensuring the rights of its citizens are respected. We should be grateful if you would provide information on the extent to which civil society in St Vincent and the Grenadines was consulted in the preparation of your national report?
- The UK understands that the use of corporal punishment has not been abolished under local law. Could you tell us the measures government is taking to meet its obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in ensuring that children are not sentenced to corporal punishment?
- We would be grateful if you could you tell us what measures are in place to allow prisoners to observe their religious beliefs e.g. Muslim inmates in line with Article 18 of ICCPR?
- We understand that there has been protest action to the governments Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill. We would be interested to hear what steps were taken to consult civil society in this change to legislation.

- Could you share with us what measures government is taking to ensure its obligations under Articles 19 of the Declaration of HR and ICCPR o ensure that public servants know their responsibilities in providing access to information under the FOI legislation enacted in St Vincent and the Grenadines in 2003?