

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO JAMAICA – Add.4

NORWAY

- We would like to ask how civil society was involved in the elaboration of its national report?
- How will civil society be involved when it comes to the follow-up of recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review?
- The severest penalty in Jamaica is capital punishment. Does Jamaica have plans to abolish capital punishment and if so, how and when?
- In its national report Jamaica states that there exists an unacceptable high level of violence against women and girls. It is also informed that a number of legislative provisions have been implemented to ensure that the rights of women are given adequate protection. What are the experience with these provisions to date? To what degree has the provisions resulted in increased protection of women in practical terms? Which further concrete measures will be taken to reduce the violence against women and girls?
- The national report acknowledges that violent crime represents a serious challenge. We note that the number of reported murders is exceptionally high in Jamaica. Which concrete measures will be taken to reduce the murder rate? What has been done to follow up on the recommendation from the Special Rapporteur on torture to address the root causes of violent crime, including, inter alia, drug trade, trade in firearms, links of criminal gangs to political parties, corruption, poverty and other socio-economic disparities?
- In Jamaica, the police is often accused of excessive use of force and also extrajudicial killings. These concerns have been addressed by the government through, inter alia, the Strategic Review of the Jamaica Constabulary Force in 2008. To what degree has the implementation of the recommendations from the Strategic Review strengthened accountability for the use of force by the by the police? And to what degree has the implementation of the recommendations from the Strategic Review reduced the number of extrajudicial killings?
- Representatives from civil society claim that homosexuals are being abused and harassed by the police. What are your comments to such allegations?