ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO MAURITANIA

UNITED KINGDOM

• We should be grateful if you would provide information on the extent to which civil society was consulted in the preparation of your national report.

• Please could you inform us as to whether an independent national human rights institution exists in your country and operates in accordance with the Paris principles designed to guide the practice of such institutions?

• We would be grateful for an update on the progress made towards revising the provisions of the penal code relating to pre-trial detention.

• Law no. 2010-031 of 20 July 2010 provides for surprise visits by the National Commission on Human Rights to places of detention. Have members of the Commission conducted any such visits yet and how do you propose to address any concerns raised about torture and ill-treatment?

• Please could you elaborate on the main provisions of the new counter-terrorism law and the timescale for its entry into force?

• We would be grateful to know what measures have been taken so far under the programme set up in 2009 to eradicate the consequences of slavery as well as to follow up on the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery more generally?

• Given your de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty during recent years, what plans do you have to formalise a moratorium?

• Please could you outline the measures taken to raise awareness amongst senior officials, the judiciary, the clergy and the public of the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)?