

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO PANAMA

UNITED KINGDOM

- Following the recent dialogue with civil society concerning the provisions of *Ley 30* passed in June 2010, what action does the government propose to take to repeal this law and reconsider the provisions contained within it?
- We should be grateful to know what is the government doing to investigate the reports of human rights violations during the protests in Changuinola in July this year?
- Please could you tell us what is the government doing to address local concerns over the effect that the numerous hydro electric schemes on the Chiriquí Viejo and other rivers in Chiriquí and the Cerro Colorado copper mine project will have on the rights of local people?
- Please could you explain what the government's response is to reports of harassment of civil society and the media who are critical of government policies?
- We should be grateful to know what is the government doing to improve conditions in prisons, speed up the process of sentencing once an individual has been found guilty of a crime and ensuring that Panamanians at all levels are treated justly and fairly within the legal system?
- 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.
- 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 should be grateful to know what the Government of Panama is doing to promote the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, and to tackle any incidences of intolerance and violence towards them.
