

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO UGANDA – Add.1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- The Czech Republic expresses its concern about a high number of allegations of the use of excessive force, use of live ammunition, killed demonstrators, suspects, detainees, and other citizens by security forces. Some deaths occurred as a result of torture. The UNHCR and other human rights organizations reported incidents of torture by the security forces, including canning, severe beating, squeezing of private parts and other inhumane methods. What concrete steps is the Government of Uganda going to take to reflecting those allegations?
- The Government deploys a wide range of tactics to stifle critical reporting, from occasional violence to threats, harassment, bureaucratic interference, and criminal charges against journalists. The Government occasionally attempted to block participation of opposition members on radio talk shows and their access to the media. Opposition leaders were frequently harassed during the April and May Walk-to-Work campaign in front of their private residences while they were not taking part in any unauthorized public gathering. Tear gas, rubber bullets and even live ammunition were repeatedly employed by the security forces against opposition gatherings in April, May and even August of this year. Could you please comment on the compliance of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly with the police arresting of members of the National Alliance for Free and Fair Elections and Inter Party Cooperation for staging nationwide demonstration against the Electoral Commission and also other demonstrators?
- As in previous years there were ritual killings of children and adults in various parts of the country. What measures have been taken to combat such occurrence and ensure an effective investigation and successful prosecution of these crimes?
- As in previous years, mobs attacked persons suspected of stealing, ritual sacrifice, witchcraft, and other crimes, resulting in deaths and injuries. Motivated in part by lack of confidence in law enforcement and the judicial system, mobs beat, lynched, burned and otherwise brutalized their victims. Could you please brief us on what steps is going Uganda to make in order to deter this kind of crimes?
- We appreciate that prison conditions in Kampala nearly meet international standards, however, as stated in the National Report, conditions in most other

prisons remained poor and in some cases life threatening. Prisons are overcrowded approximately three times over their capacity. The Prison Service recorded 103 prisoner deaths nationwide resulting from torture, overcrowding, malnutrition, poor sanitation, disease, and lack of medical care. Also the number of infants in women's prisons increased during the year. What measures does Uganda plan to take with respect to meeting international prison standards?

- Lower courts remain understaffed, weak, and inefficient. Judicial corruption is a problem. The military court system does not often assure the right to a fair trial as well. This inadequate system of judicial administration resulted in serious backlog of cases and limited the right to a fair trial. What steps have been taken to ensure fair trial?
- What steps have been taken to eliminate irregularities as bribery, intimidation, violence, multiple voting, and ballot stuffing, in future elections?
- Can you describe the role of about 18,000 auxiliary police units engaged in the run-up to this year's presidential and parliamentary elections? Could you comment on the impact of last year's restructuring of the security forces has had on their conduct?
- While we welcome that Uganda has enacted laws for protecting women against domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment, these laws are not enforced by the Government. Could you please elaborate further on the implementation of such laws?
- Uganda Demographic and Health Survey noted that just a small percentage of the population had been registered at birth. What measures are in place ensuring that all children are registered at birth?
- We appreciate that the Government of Uganda has enacted Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Bill. How Uganda plans to ensure observance of this law in practice?
- Child abuse remained a serious problem, particularly rape and sexual abuse of girls. UN report stated that 32 percent of marriages involved underage girls. Numerous reports point out to the LRA abductions of children during the year. Uganda is not a party to the 1980 Hague convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. What measures are in place ensuring children

rights? Does the Government intend to sign Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction?

- Does the government consider abolishing the death penalty?
- LGTB persons face discrimination and legal restrictions. The Government proposed Anti-Homosexuality Bill which, if enacted, will broaden the criminalization of same-sex relations. Could you please elaborate on the compliance of such treatment with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
- The Government is not capable to avoid assaults and provocations to assaults by self-proclaimed pastors. After the publishing of the list of alleged homosexuals by Uganda's newspapers and killing of David Kato, a Ugandan gay rights campaigner, the situation is worse. What concrete steps is the Government going to take to avoid those provocations?

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, and the extent to which they will be involved in the follow-up
- Following the recommendations of UNESCO, what steps are you taking to reassess the legislative provisions for media regulation?
- Please advise what steps you have taken to give effect to the UN Convention Against Torture in national legislation
- Please could you advise of Uganda's plans to abolish the use of so-called 'ungazetted' places of detention
- In line with the 2009 ruling of the Ugandan Supreme Court that the mandatory death penalty is unconstitutional, please advise on the steps that you have taken to ensure this ruling can be applied uniformly across civilian and military courts?
- What plans does Uganda have to reform bail conditions and regulations around periods of pre-trial detention for those suspected of terrorism and treason?
- What action is the Government taking to investigate instances of human rights violations allegedly committed by the security forces during the recent opposition protests?