

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
(SECOND BATCH)

GERMANY

- Which concrete measures does the Democratic Republic of the Congo take in order to more effectively address the issue of recruitment and use of child soldiers?
- In how far will, by law and in practice, human rights defenders and journalists be better protected in future?
- Which are the next planned steps in order to end impunity for human rights violations?

URUGUAY

- Uruguay would like to know what concrete measures have been taken for the effective implementation of the legislation regarding women's political participation, especially at the highest levels of decision-making.

SLOVENIA

- Slovenia notes with appreciation the progress made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in ending and preventing the recruitment and use of children by armed and security forces. We would like to ask what measures has the Government taken and what still plans to do to ensure accountability of the recruiters of children among all ranks of the Armed Forces as well as in armed groups? What measures has the Government taken and what still plans to do to guarantee to children demobilized from armed and security forces and armed groups appropriate psycho-social rehabilitation and reintegration?
- Slovenia is concerned by the reports on discrimination of women and girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, especially with regard to access to and use of basic care and referral services for reproductive, maternal, neonatal and adolescent health. We would like to inquire about the plans of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to address sexual and reproductive health needs of women and girls, including their reproductive rights.

BELGIUM

- Est-ce que le projet de loi sur les défenseurs des droits humains sera mis en conformité avec les standards internationaux et ses obligations au titre des instruments internationaux des droits humains ratifiés par la RDC ?

- Comment est-ce que la RDC compte renforcer et mieux appliquer la stratégie nationale contre les violences sexuelles ? Est-ce que la RDC peut envisager de supprimer dans sa législation des dispositions pénalisant l'avortement en cas d'agression sexuelle, de viol, d'inceste et lorsque la grossesse met en danger la santé mentale et physique de la mère ou la vie de la mère ou du fœtus (en conformité avec ses obligations au titre du Protocole de Maputo à la Charte africaine des droits de l'Homme et des peuples relatif aux droits des femmes) ?
- Outre les dispositions existantes, des mesures ou des incitations supplémentaires seront-elles élaborées pour stimuler davantage la participation des femmes à la vie politique et publique ?
- Est-ce que le gouvernement a l'intention de répondre favorablement aux demandes de visite de plusieurs procédures spéciales thématiques du Conseil des droits de l'Homme?
- Le Président Tshisekedi a fait de la lutte contre la corruption sa priorité. Quelles mesures sont envisagées pour mettre en œuvre une politique de tolérance zéro efficace en matière de corruption et d'assurer la poursuite des responsables de corruption, de détournement des fonds publics, blanchiment d'argent et fraude ? La RDC serait-elle prête à ratifier la Convention de l'Union Africaine sur la prévention et la lutte contre la corruption ainsi que le Protocole portant Statut de la Cour africaine de justice et des droits de l'homme (Protocole de Malabo)?
- Quel est le timing de la libération de tous le prisonniers politiques et d'opinion et est-ce que les listes avec les noms des personnes libérées seront publiées de manière transparente ?

NETHERLANDS

Legislative measures for the protection of human rights in the DRC are now under the discussion before the parliament, including bills on:

Protections for and responsibilities of human rights defenders

Protections for the rights of persons with disabilities

Measures for realization of the right to demonstrate

Protections for the rights of indigenous people

Access to information

The decriminalization of press offences

- The Netherlands would like to ask the delegation from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) if they can indicate at what phase these various bills are in the legislative process, and when adoption is expected?
- Furthermore, The Netherlands would like to ask if the delegation from the DRC can elaborate on the inclusiveness of the definition of a human rights defender? In

particular, will the legislation acknowledge both the defenders of environmental rights and the rights of LGBTI persons as human rights defenders, and will it offer the same legal protection to these groups to carry out their work in safety?