

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ARMENIA – ADD.2

NETHERLANDS

- **Police action**

The Ad Hoc Parliamentary Commission to investigate the March 2008 post-election violence presented its report in September 2009. The report contains a number of specific recommendations. What follow-up has been given to these recommendations?
- **Judicial reform**

What are the Government's views on the recommendations contained in the report of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on the monitoring of criminal cases in the aftermath of the March 2008 post-election violence? In particular, what are its views on findings / recommendations relating to:

 - a. limiting the use of pre-trial detention,
 - b. measures to ensure equality between prosecution and defence,
 - c. impartiality and accountability of judges, and
 - d. comprehensive investigations into allegations of torture and ill treatment?
- **Access to detainees**

The Open Society Institute alleges in its submission for this UPR that the Police Monitoring Group does not have access to all places of detention such as police stations. Would it be possible to broaden access of the Police Monitoring Group to all premises and facilities of the police where people may be detained including police stations?
- **Media**

Regarding Freedom of the Media, how do you intend to follow-up on the ruling of the European Court of Human Rights of June 2008, PACE Resolution 1643 (2008) as well as the ruling of the Armenian Constitutional Court of February 2010, all regarding the case of the A1+ Broadcasting company? Under which conditions will the Government tender for new and expired broadcasting licenses?
- **Law on Demonstrations**

Will you consider further changes to the Law on Conducting Meetings, Assemblies, Rallies and Demonstrations, addressing concerns that remain after the amendments of June 2008 in response to the opinion of the Venice Commission?
- **Ratification of the Statute of the International Criminal Court**

Is Armenia willing to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court?

NORWAY

- How has the Republic of Armenia included representatives of civil society in the preparation of the national report and how do they intend to include these actors in the follow-up process?
- What steps are the Government planning to further improve the cooperation with the UN Human Rights system? More specifically, which measures will be taken to ensure submission of overdue Treaty Body reports?
- National NGOs have expressed concerns regarding the amendments to the Law on Civil Society Organizations, alleging that it will threaten the independence and freedom of activity of civil society organizations. What steps are the Government of Armenia taking to address these concerns? Is the Government ready to initiate a constructive consultative process with the civil society on this issue?
- Norway appreciates the introduction of a higher quota for women in the Election Law. Does the Government consider other steps to further the participation of women in political and public life?
- Norway encourages a swift adoption of the draft Law on Domestic Violence. Is the Government planning additional measures to address violence against women in Armenia?
