

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO BAHRAIN (FIRST BATCH)**

### **GERMANY**

- Have officials of all ranks been held accountable for their actions, especially regarding allegations of torture and other ill-treatment in connection with the events of 2011?
- Have all sentences by the National Safety Court been repealed and the cases transferred to criminal courts?
- On what grounds and on which legal basis have travel bans been imposed on Bahraini citizens, especially in the case of Sayed Hadi, who was scheduled to speak at the UPR Pre-Session in April?
- In what way was civil society involved in the preparation of the Kingdom of Bahrain's National Report?
- How does the government of the Kingdom of Bahrain intend to engage with representatives of the opposition following the dissolution of the largest political society "Al Wefaq" last year and the proposed dissolution of the second largest political society "Wa'ad"?
- How does the government of the Kingdom of Bahrain intend to cooperate with the UN mechanisms and special procedures in the future, especially with regard to standing invitations to UN Special Rapporteurs?
- What efforts are made to ensure the unhindered access to medical treatment for all groups of the population in accordance with article 8 of the Constitution?

### **SLOVENIA**

- We are concerned about reports on widespread use of torture and ill-treatment and on the allegations of torture not being properly investigated. Could the Government of Bahrain provide more information on what concrete measures have been taken to address these allegations, in particular with respect to the allegations that the court rulings resulting in death sentences have been based on confessions obtained under torture?
- In this regard we would also appreciate more information on how many cases of alleged use of torture and ill-treatment are currently being investigated, how many perpetrators have been prosecuted and sentenced and what redress is being afforded to the victims.
- We further welcome the establishment of several accountability mechanisms. What concrete measures have been put in place to ensure their impartiality and the transparency of their work?

## **SWEDEN**

- Could the Government of Bahrain please elaborate on what measures it is taking to ensure respect for the freedom of association and assembly, including for civil society organisations and political parties such as the Al Wifaq?
- Sweden regrets that the death penalty was carried out in January of this year, after no executions in six years. Could the Government of Bahrain please elaborate on what steps it is taking to move towards an abolition or moratorium of the death penalty?
- Could the Government of Bahrain please elaborate on which additional steps it will take to guarantee the impartiality and independence of the institutions established following the BICI recommendations?

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

- How has Bahrain worked with the UN system to implement previous UPR recommendations, and how will it follow-up on this UPR?
- What steps will Bahrain take to continue to improve the effectiveness and transparency of its independent oversight bodies?

## **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

- What human rights protections are in place to prevent excessive use of force by security forces during arrests and ensure investigation and accountability as appropriate for any mistreatment in light of the Bahrain National Security Agency's restored arrest authority?
- What human rights protections will be maintained in military courts to protect against abuses?
- What is the status of the government's efforts to create an inclusive police force, including at the leadership level?
- Will the government review decisions which arbitrarily revoke citizenship and consider changes to the law permitting such decisions in order to prevent and reduce statelessness?
- Will the government take steps to reform Bahrain's nationality laws to eliminate discrimination against women with respect to citizenship conferral and transmission of citizenship to their children and spouses?
- How does the government of Bahrain plan to respect its international obligations with regard to freedom of association, including under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in light of recent legal action against political societies?