ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NEPAL – UPR January 2011

The following questions, containing references to Dalits and caste discrimination, were submitted to the Government of Nepal prior to the Universal Period Review session in January 2011.

CANADA

Social Discrimination

As a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Nepal is required to prohibit discrimination based on descent, which includes caste-based discrimination. Does the Government of Nepal expect to pass the Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability Crime Elimination and Punishment Act in 2011? Will this act provide comprehensive definitions of caste-based discrimination and untouchability; and classify offences by order of severity, listing commensurate punishments?

CZECH REPUBLIC

While we appreciate the fact that the Government priorities include combat **caste-based discrimination** and legislation adopted in this regard, we would like to ask to what extend the local authorities in rural and remote areas are involved in implementation of this policy? How cases of **caste-based discriminations** are reported, investigated and perpetrators prosecuted? How the victims of such violence are compensated? What remedies does the law prescribe for such cases? How the public education concerning prohibition of **caste-based discrimination** is ensured?

DENMARK

Discrimination and exclusion based on **caste**, gender and ethnicity remains widespread at all levels in Nepali society. The submission of the draft **Caste-based Discrimination** and Untouchability Crime Elimination and Punishment Act to the Legislature-Parliament provides an opportunity to improve the legislative framework and fight discriminatory practices. What is the government's plan on this bill and other related issues such as the **National Dalit Rights Commission Bill**?

NORWAY

How can the Government of Nepal make sure that institutions in the fight against gender and **caste** based discrimination such as the National Women's Commission and the **National Dalit Commission** become more effective?

SWEDEN

What measures are being taken to strengthen its legislation and implement existing legislation to promote and protect the **Dalit** population in particular?

SWITZERLAND

What is the implementation status of the **Caste-based Discrimination** and Untouchability Crime Elimination and Punishment Act and other related instruments such as the National Dalit Rights Commission Bill (NDRC)?

UNITED KINGDOM

A relevant, general question from the UK: Could you share with us how the Government of Nepal will manage the follow-up to the Universal Periodic Review, and, who will be responsible for oversight of implementation, monitoring and reporting?