

## **UPR of The Arab Republic of Egypt – Advance questions submitted by Norway**

1. How did The Arab Republic of Egypt involve civil society organisations in the elaboration of its national report?
2. What steps will The Arab Republic of Egypt take to follow up and implement the recommendations of the Human Rights Council? How will the civil society be involved in the process?
3. There has been a call from national NGOs for amendments to Law No 84 of 2002, to secure the rights to organise and freedom of association. Will The Arab Republic of Egypt assure a transparent and constructive consultative process with the civil society on this issue?
4. Will The Arab Republic of Egypt assure a transparent and constructive consultative process with the civil society organisations on the draft of the counter-terrorism law, which is supposed to be finalised before the end of the term of the state of emergency in May this year?
5. Norway appreciates the 2006 amendments to the Penal Code with regard to crimes of opinion. However, there are still criminal penalties for acts of opinion and expression in Egypt, and journalists and bloggers risk several years of imprisonment. Does The Arab Republic of Egypt consider further steps to decriminalize acts of opinion and expression?
6. Norway appreciates that 64 seats of the People's Assembly are reserved women in this year's parliamentary elections. What further steps does The Arab Republic of Egypt consider to assure a higher number of women in decision-making positions?
7. Despite protective provisions in the Penal Code, violence against women is a serious concern, whether occurring in the home, at the work place, or in the public sphere. What concrete steps are considered to increase the protection of women in Egypt?
8. Does The Arab Republic of Egypt consider withdrawing the reservations to CEDAW articles 2, 9 and 16, and ratifying OP-CEDAW?