

UPR of Fiji – Advance questions submitted by Norway

1. What concrete steps is Fiji taking to ratify or accede to all UN Human Rights Conventions?
2. How has Fiji involved civil society in the preparation for the UPR process? How will Fiji involve civil society in the follow up to recommendations made in the UPR?
3. Will Fiji advise the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers of a suitable time to visit Fiji (requested in 2007, 2008 and 2009) and if so, when will such advice be given?
4. Will Fiji respond to the request from the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (requested in 2006 and 2007) to visit and if so, when will a response be given?
5. The Public Emergency Regulation (2009) restricts, inter alia, the freedom of expression and has been broadly condemned. Please explain how the situation in Fiji amounts to a state of emergency requiring restrictions on the freedom of expression. Please explain how the restrictions are limited in time and scope commensurate with the necessity of the situation.
6. Are there any plans to review the Public Emergency Regulation?
7. There are allegations that human rights defenders are subject to arbitrary detention and ill treatment in Fiji. What measures is Fiji taking to ensure that human rights defenders are not detained arbitrarily? How are claims about ill treatment and torture of human rights defenders investigated and prosecuted?
8. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommends a very early adoption of the proposed law on domestic violence and sexual offences. What steps is Fiji taking in this regard and what is the estimated timeframe for adoption of such a law?
9. What measures are in place to ensure equal wages and working conditions for women in Fiji?