



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

United Nations Human Rights Council
17th Session of the UPR Working Group

Geneva, 24 October 2013

German questions and recommendations to
Jordan

Statement

by

~~H.E. Ambassador Hanns-H. Schumacher~~

~~Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations~~

Mister President,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Germany would like to ask:

- 1) In November 2012, Prime Minister Ensour announced that the Jordanian government was going to work towards the full implementation of CEDAW and might conduct a review of Jordan's reservations to CEDAW. Which steps have been taken in this regard as well as in the wider context of preventing all forms of discrimination against women?
- 2) With regard to the ongoing process of electoral reform: What measures are being taken to reinforce the principle of universal election, improve equal representation in constituencies and ensure equality of votes?

Germany would like to submit the following recommendations:

- 1) Germany is concerned about the 2012 amendment of the Press and Publications Law and recommends that Jordan takes appropriate legislative steps to ensure the full protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, in particular with regard to electronic publications and online journalism.
- 2) Germany welcomes the criminalization of torture under the Jordanian Penal Code and recommends that Jordan adopt targeted measures to ensure the

full implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of Torture (CAT), including by disseminating information to increase awareness among law enforcement personnel, by making sure that there is no impunity for acts of torture and by providing redress and adequate compensation to victims of torture. Germany furthermore recommends that Jordan consider making the declarations under Art. 21 and 22 of CAT.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Questions in advance:

- 1) In response to concerns and recommendations expressed by the treaty bodies (CAT, CERD and CEDAW), what is Jordan doing to ensure that migrant workers, including those employed in the Qualified Industrial Zone, enjoy the full protection of their human rights? In particular, how do Jordanian authorities ensure the equal and effective enforcement of the Jordanian Labour Code on migrant workers, and what measures does Jordan take to prohibit and prevent all forms of violence against female migrant workers, especially those employed as domestic staff?
- 2) The Human Rights Committee and CAT expressed concerns about the wide range of criminal offences that can be submitted to the State Security Court. Jordanian media reported on 1st September 2013 that H.M. King Abdullah II, decided that the jurisdiction of the State Security Court should be amended by law in order to ensure its conformity with the Jordanian Constitution. How is the Government of Jordan going to proceed in this respect and what kind of regulations does it envisage?

