



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
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Geneva, 21 October 2013

**German questions and recommendations to
Saudi Arabia**

Statement

by

H.E. Ambassador Hanns H. Schumacher

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

Mister President,

Germany would like to ask the following questions to the distinguished delegation of Saudi Arabia:

- 1) How does the state ensure equal access for girls to primary education and the retention of girls in school?
- 2) What further measures is Saudi Arabia taking to protect migrant workers from human rights violations – besides the recent legislation on foreign domestic workers?

Germany would like to submit the following recommendations:

- 1) Germany recommends that Saudi Arabia announces a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition. Pending this, appropriate steps should be taken to reduce the application of the death penalty. Due process of law should be guaranteed in all judicial proceedings.
- 2) Germany recommends the introduction of a minimum marriage age of 18 years for both men and women.
- 3) Germany recommends adopting an NGO law which should take into account the views of civil society stakeholders and provide an enabling framework for the development of civil society in line with Saudi Arabia's international commitments and international standards.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Question in advance:

- 1) In August 2013, the Saudi Council of Ministers has adopted legislation to ban domestic abuse. What measures does the KSA take to implement this ban and to address all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, to ensure that women and girls who are victims of violence receive effective protection and redress, and to bring perpetrators of violence to justice?

- 2) In 2008 the KSA acceded to the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD). Which measures does the KSA adopt, in accordance with CRPD, to prohibit all forms of discrimination on the basis of disability, including all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse, and to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to an inclusive education?