



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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**United Nations Human Rights Council  
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**Geneva, 28 January 2014**

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**German questions and recommendations to Cambodia**

**German National Statement**

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of Cambodia to the UPR. Germany has taken note of the efforts of the government of Cambodia to improve the human rights situation in the country, in particular to reduce human trafficking and child labour. However, Germany remains concerned at a number of issues, including the general ban on demonstrations and the use of force against and the detention without access to legal counsel of protesters.

Germany would like to address the following recommendations to Cambodia:

1. To continue to take the necessary measures for effectively fighting human trafficking and child labour;
2. To protect the rights of human rights defenders, including indigenous leaders and peasant activists, to conduct their work without hindrance, intimidation or harassment;
3. To guarantee the effective exercise of the human right to assembly, in particular, with respect to crowd control, to formulate clear instructions compatible with human rights standards for the use of fire arms, to provide training for human rights-compatible conduct of the police, to prohibit the use of violence by unofficial or plain clothes security forces and to ensure all persons detained timely access to their families and to legal counsel;
4. To ensure that the concept of defamation and disturbance of public order is in line with the human right to freedom of expression in law and practice;
5. To ensure that the granting of land concessions or the withdrawal of land titles or the legal rights to land use does not lead to violations of human rights, including of economic, social and cultural rights, of the persons inhabiting, working or otherwise using the land concerned;
6. To adopt effective measures to combat the culture of violence and impunity and to establish an independent and adequately resourced national preventive mechanism according to OPCAT requirements.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Germany has submitted the following advance questions:

1. Considering recent violent clashes of peaceful protesters with security forces and the detention of protesters without access to legal counsel, what measures does the government of Cambodia take to ensure that the human right of association and demonstration can effectively be exercised?
2. What procedures are in place in Cambodia for the distribution of licences for the operation of broadcasting stations and access to public broadcasting stations and how does the government of Cambodia ensure that discrimination as to political opinion or affiliation is avoided?

