

18th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Chile

Statement by Austria

28 January 2013

We warmly welcome H.E. ... and the delegation of Chile and thank them for the presentation and the national report.

Austria commends the numerous efforts undertaken since the last review, including the issuance of a standing invitation to Special Procedures of the Council as well as the adopted Anti-Discrimination Act and the ratification of ILO Convention No. 169.

Austria remains concerned, however, about incidents of discrimination and attacks against indigenous peoples and negative stereotypes affecting them and members of minorities, especially women who often face multiple forms of discrimination. Considering that indigenous peoples are neither represented at the National Congress nor at regional governments, we would be interested to hear more details about the implementation of the consultation mechanism required by Convention 169, especially how Chile plans to provide an adequate representation of the indigenous peoples before adopting and implementing measures that may affect them. Could you also elaborate on the strict application of the Anti-Terrorist-Law especially against some indigenous peoples.

While we strongly acknowledge your efforts to improve prison conditions, in particular with regard to juveniles, we regret that there are still reports on overcrowding, mistreatment and unjustified punishments as well as the lack of progress with regard to effective Youth Protection Programs. Could you elaborate more on how you intend to effectively address this and what is the state of play of the draft law "Protection of Minors" presented to parliament in 2012?

According to UNESCO, no killings of journalists and media workers were recorded in 2008-2012. However, there were several reports of arrests of journalists. We would be grateful to receive updated information on this.

Austria offers the following recommendations:

- Take concrete measures to guarantee the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in decisions that affect them, in view of systematically implementing the right to consultation;
- Take effective measures to bring conditions of detention in line with international standards, in particular to reduce overcrowding, to improve the situation of juveniles and women in prison and to promote non-custodial measures;
- Ratify the OP to CEDAW;

I thank you.