



Statement by Sweden in the interactive dialogue on Andorra

*Delivered by Minister-Counsellor Josefin Simonsson Brodén
Geneva, May 7, 2015 (speaking time 2 min)*

Mr President,

Sweden wishes to welcome the delegation and express our thanks for the information related to our advance questions.

In the last URP-process Sweden raised a concern about children's right in Andorra and more specifically the fact that corporal punishment of children was not specifically banned in Andorran legislation. In the light of this Sweden welcomes the December 2014 amendment of article 476 in the Criminal Code that clearly prohibits corporal punishment of children in all settings in Andorra.

Andorra has still not adopted the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and there exist no legal ways to seek asylum in Andorra. Sweden finds participation in the UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of utmost importance, especially in light of today's large flows of asylum seekers and its implications for Europe.

With regard to labour rights, Sweden notes that Andorra is not a member of the International Labour Organization and has not signed any of its conventions, e.g. the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention from 1949. The Andorran constitution and law do recognize that workers have the right to form trade unions to defend their economic and social interests. Andorran legislation does not, however, provide for collective bargaining or the right to strike.

Sweden recommends Andorra:

- to review its legislation to create legal ways to seek asylum in Andorra,
- to review its legislation so that it provides legal support for collective bargaining and the right to strike.

Thank you, Mr. President