

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO NEW ZEALAND (SECOND BATCH)

BELARUS

- **Subject 1**

The Committee against Torture was concerned at reports that, despite remedial measures taken by the authorities, overcrowding remained a problem in many places of detention, as well as at reports that, in a number of such places, the material conditions and health-care services, in particular mental health-care services, were inadequate. It recommended that New Zealand continue to reduce overcrowding, particularly through the wider application of non-custodial measures as an alternative to imprisonment, and ensure that adequate mental health care was provided for all persons deprived of their liberty.

Question

What practical measures has the Government of New Zealand taken to bring the conditions of detention in all places of deprivation of liberty in line with the relevant international norms and standards, including the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders?

- **Subject 2**

The Human Rights Committee noted with concern that the prosecution and conviction rates for trafficking in persons and other slavery-like practices are low, and that the first prosecutions for trafficking in persons occurred only in 2014 (arts. 8 and 24). The Committee provided New Zealand with the relevant recommendations, including the following:

- (a) Ensure the protection of victims of trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, and other contemporary forms of slavery, the immediate and thorough investigation of all allegations of such acts, and the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators;
- (b) Develop and implement programmes for victims' rehabilitation and redress, with particular focus on women and child victims;
- (c) Effectively regulate and monitor international labour contractors and recruitment agencies to prevent trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation and other contemporary forms of slavery;
- (d) Ensure that victims of trafficking are not prosecuted, detained or punished for activities they were involved in as a result of their situation as trafficked persons, and consider offering immigration status options to these victims.

Question

What has been done by the Government of New Zealand to effectively implement the aforementioned recommendations?