UPR 14, October 30th, 2012

Recommendations by Canada

**Zambia**

**Question**

In 2008, Zambia agreed to take measures to improve the situation of widows and girls, including through protecting their right to inheritance and preventing early marriages. Could the Delegation of Zambia inform us of progress achieved so far in addressing the problem of discriminatory practices emanating from customary laws?

**Recommendations**

Canada recommends that Zambia:

1. Address the continued high prevalence of violence against women and girls, including by strengthening training for the judiciary and law enforcement personnel to enhance their capacity to respond effectively to cases of violence against women and girls.
2. Recognize marital rape as a criminal offence.
3. Repeal laws that criminalize a person’s sexuality.

**Observations (if time allows):**

We welcome the steps taken by Zambia to develop new legislation on freedom of the press and access to information. These laws will be important to guarantee, in a break from past negative practices, that the media can operate independently of government.