

UN Human Rights Council

UPR 16th session

**Statement by Sweden in the  
interactive dialogue on Canada**

*Delivered by Minister Councillor Irina Schoulgin Nyoni  
Geneva, Friday 26 April, 2013*

**Mr President,**

Sweden wishes to thank the Canadian delegation for the presentation of your national report and welcomes this opportunity to continue our dialogue regarding the advance questions raised.

Sweden notes with appreciation Canada's efforts to address the issue of violence against women but notes the reports on the repeated violence against indigenous women. Could Canada elaborate further on what means that are currently adopted to hinder violence against women, in general, and indigenous women in particular?

Sweden recommends the Canadian government to take all appropriate measures to address violence against indigenous women.

Sweden recognizes that Canada is an important recipient of refugees from conflict zones around the world. Nonetheless, the UNHCR and several NGOs have criticized Canada's new refugee legislation (Bill C-11 and Bill C-31) for not respecting the UN Convention of Refugees, by differentiating between refugees depending of their country of origin and the way in which they arrive in Canada. The UNHCR is also critical of the 12 months compulsory detention of so-called irregular refugees. What is Canada's response to this criticism and what measures are taken to make sure that the UN Convention of Refugees is respected?

**Thank you Mr President**