

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, GENEVA**

**Statement by Trinidad and Tobago - Universal Periodic Review of Canada**

**Palais des Nations, Geneva, 26 April 2013**

Mr. President,

Trinidad and Tobago welcomes the Delegation of Canada and thanks them for their informative report.

Canada boasts a strong framework for the protection and promotion of human rights, supported by its independent courts system and a network of complementary laws, policies and programmes. This framework has been strengthened since Canada’s last UPR with efforts undertaken in accordance with the various recommendations received. Among these are:

* General training for federal public servants on human rights issues;
* Progress made in the application of the analysis affecting equality between men and women across government;
* Programmes introduced in 2010-2011 dedicated to enhancing Aboriginal skills development and training that are predicted to result in new employment for an estimated 15,500 to 18,500 Aboriginal individuals annually;
* Ratification of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) in March 2010.

My delegation further recommends the following measures:

1. That the Government of Canada continue in its endeavours in consistently address the skills development and training needs of Aboriginal peoples to ensure access to sustained decent work;

2. That the Government enhance its system for the protection of children by consideration of the establishment of a national Ombsudsperson for Children.

I thank you Mr. President.

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