UPR 16, April 24, 2013

Recommendations by Canada

**Tuvalu**

**Question**

In 2008, in response to interventions on freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression relating to discrimination against individuals of certain beliefs that stem from traditional and customary practices, Tuvalu recognized that there exists a discrepancy between the law and certain traditional practices. It expressed its commitment to address this matter. Could the delegation from Tuvalu inform us as to the status of current laws and concrete steps taken to address the issue?

**Recommendations**

Canada recommends that Tuvalu:

1.    Continue to combat discriminatory societal behaviours, in particular discrimination against women in law and practice, and take further steps to address violence against women, and domestic violence in particular.

        2.  Make changes to the Constitution Amendment Act of 2010 to fully guarantee freedom of religion or belief.

**Observations (if time allows):**

We welcome the announcement by Prime Minister Telavi in March 2013 that Tuvalu has formulated a Family Protection Bill and is launching community consultations this year.