

UPR 18, February 3, 2014
Recommendations by Canada

Eritrea

Question

Could the delegation of Eritrea explain what steps the government has taken to repeal legislative provisions which criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that Eritrea:

1. Take steps to improve the status of religious minorities and ensure protection for religious communities from persecution.
2. Take necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights, including the rights of women, political rights, the rights of persons in detention and the right of freedom of expression as it pertains to the press and other media.
3. Immediately end the practice of indefinitely extending military service, a system which amounts to forced labour.

Observations (if time allows):

We are concerned about reports of poor prison conditions in Eritrea, and allegations of the torture of prisoners. We are also concerned about the existence of secret detention centres. We stress the importance of the Government of Eritrea to abide by its obligations, some of which are reflected in the Constitution of Eritrea, as well as the importance of allowing monitors and the UN Special Procedures access to Eritrea.