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UPR 18, January 29, 2014
Recommendations by Canada

Yemen

Question

In 2009, the Republic of Yemen agreed to actively enhance respect for the rights of women, including access to education and equal treatment in custody cases, and create support mechanisms for divorcees and women victims of violence, particularly sexual violence. Could the Delegation of the Republic of Yemen inform us of any progress made to implement these reforms?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that the Republic of Yemen:

1. Promptly investigate any continued allegations of child, early and forced marriage, especially in the case of young girls, and undertake measures to prevent girls from being forced to withdraw from school.
2. Ensure fulfilment of recommendations accepted by Yemen during its previous UPR to cease threats against journalists, to take steps to guarantee and promote freedom of expression, and to amend and enforce the Press and Publication Act.

Observations (if time allows):

Canada recognizes the positive political changes that have taken place in Yemen since 2011, including an inclusive National Dialogue. Canada recognizes the steps taken by the Republic of Yemen to improve the overall human rights situation of the country by implementing some of the recommendations it accepted during its first UPR in 2009, especially the recommendation to ensure compliance with its obligations under article 37 (a) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Canada also recognizes Yemen's engagement with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to improve the situation.

We are concerned about reports of continued violence against women despite the Republic of Yemen's acceptance of recommendation 91.33 to "actively enhance respect for the rights of women, including access to education and equal treatment in custody cases, and by creating support mechanism for divorcees and women of victims of violence, particularly sexual violence."