



UPR 21, 20 January 2015

Recommendations by Canada for Lao People's Democratic Republic's UPR

Question

During its last review, the Lao People's Democratic Republic agreed to become a party to the Convention Against Torture and has since ratified this treaty. Canada welcomes this positive development. Could the delegation inform us of the steps taken to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the Convention by all levels of authority in the country?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

1. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
2. Undertake a thorough and credible investigation into the disappearance of Sombath Somphone and other cases of purported enforced disappearances.
3. Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles;
4. Fully implement its obligations under the ICCPR to respect and ensure the right to freedom of expression.
5. Become a party to the optional protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Observations

Canada remains concerned about the condition and treatment of thousands of Hmong people who have been repatriated from Thailand to the Lao PDR, including with regard to freedom of religion and belief