



**UPR 22, May 5, 2015  
Recommendations by Canada for Malawi's UPR**

Thank you Mr. President,

**Recommendations**

Canada recommends that Malawi:

1. Amend the Penal Code to criminalize all forms of sexual abuse of children regardless of the sex of the child, since currently not all forms of sexual abuse of boys are criminalized.
2. Improve law enforcement capacity to protect victims of domestic violence by expanding the ability of police to investigate cases of suspected domestic violence, including spousal rape, and increasing training and awareness-raising for police.
3. Continue to take concrete steps to eliminate child, early and forced marriage, such as Malawi's recent passing of the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Law, raising the age of marriage to 18 years.
4. Amend sections 9 and 16 of the Citizenship Act to ensure that nationality provisions are applied equally to men and women.

**Observations**

Canada welcomes the announcement in July 2014 of a moratorium on prosecution for same-sex sexual activity pending a review of the penal laws criminalizing same-sex acts.

Canada remains concerned about the continued high prevalence of violence against women and girls, as well as child, early and forced marriage in Malawi.