



UPR 23, November 6, 2015
Recommendations by Canada for Burma's UPR

Recommendations

Canada recommends that Burma:

1. Repeal or amend the package of four laws on race and religion – the Religious Conversion bill, the Buddhist Women's Special Marriage bill, the Monogamy bill and the Population Control and Healthcare bill – to ensure respect for the human rights of women and ethnic and religious minority communities, and consistency with international human rights obligations and standards.
2. Take steps to protect the rights and regularize the citizenship status of all individuals, including those who formerly held temporary identification cards.
3. Ensure effective registration of all children born in your country, regardless of their ethnic origin and without any discrimination, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
4. Amend the Bar Council Act to ensure the Bar Council's independence, and commit to improving legal education and continuing legal professional development, including with regard to international human rights law and the UN human rights mechanisms.

Observations

Canada welcomes your country's transition towards greater democracy, reconciliation, and respect for human rights over the last four years. We encourage continued constitutional, legislative, judicial and institutional reforms to address human rights issues, and to engage with civil society, including women's organizations, lawyers and relevant experts to ensure inclusive consultations on legislative reforms.

Despite real and tangible improvements, however, Canada continues to have a number of serious concerns, particularly with regard to the situation of ethnic and religious minority groups.