



UPR 23, November 11, 2015
Recommendations by Canada for São Tomé & Príncipe's UPR

Recommendations

Canada recommends that São Tomé & Príncipe:

1. Educate the public and law enforcement on women's legal rights, particularly in cases of rape and domestic violence, while undertaking to develop and implement a holistic strategy to prevent family violence, with the participation of all stakeholders.
2. Register all children immediately after birth and ensure that birth registration legislation is in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its 2013 Concluding Observations.
3. Complete the ratification of key international instruments that São Tomé & Príncipe has signed, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Observations:

We welcome the steps taken by São Tomé & Príncipe to address the Millennium Development Goals since its last Universal Periodic Review in 2011. In particular, commendable progress has been achieved on ensuring primary education for all, reducing child mortality, and increasing the overall wellbeing of its population.

We are concerned about continued reports of widespread domestic violence in São Tomé & Príncipe, and women's reluctance to bring legal action due to costs and lack of faith in the legal system. We stress the importance of addressing these issues, including by raising awareness of issues related to domestic violence.