



**UPR 25, May 9, 2016**  
**Recommendations by Canada for the United Republic of Tanzania's UPR**

**Recommendations**

Canada recommends that Tanzania:

1. Fully enforce existing laws prohibiting violence against women and girls, including rape, female genital mutilation, domestic violence and violence against persons believed to practice witchcraft. Conduct public education and advocacy campaigns that involve all relevant stakeholders.
2. Prevent, detect, investigate, and bring to justice those responsible for the harmful practice of child, early and forced marriage. Amend the 1971 Law of Marriage Act to set the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for both girls and boys without exception and to make it consistent with the 2009 Law of the Child Act, which defines a child as any person below 18 years.
3. Effectively implement the 2013-2017 National Human Rights Action Plan by fully investigating all reports of violence and intimidation. Publicly call for an end to attacks, abuse and discrimination against persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, LGBTI persons, and people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV/AIDS.
4. Amend the domestic legal framework before Tanzania's next Universal Periodic Review to ensure that asylum seekers and refugees have access to work and freedom of movement.

**Observations**

Canada commends Tanzania on the General Elections of October 2015, which were reported as having been largely free and fair. However, we reiterate our concern over the Zanzibar Electoral Commission's decision to annul the election in Zanzibar and proceed with a re-run.

Canada is concerned that recent legislative developments may result in the substantial erosion of press freedom and the right to freedom of expression. We encourage a participatory and consultative process for the adoption of regulations for Statistics and Cybercrime Bills. We urge the Government of Tanzania to consult with all interested stakeholders in the finalization of the Access to Information Act and Media Service Bill to guarantee they respect international human rights obligations and principles.