**UPR 26, November 1, 2016**

**Recommendations by Canada for Venezuela’s UPR**

Canada welcomes Venezuela’s adoption of several laws that could serve to address a number of human rights issues, including for women who are victims of violence and people living with HIV and AIDS.

Canada recommends that Venezuela:

1. End the practice of arbitrary detentions, release all political prisoners with immediate effect, and implement the recommendations issued by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions, including in Opinion No. 26/2014;
2. Restore the independence and impartiality of the judiciary by appointing impartial, qualified judges and magistrates in accordance with its legal and constitutional requirements;
3. Ensure the immediate and urgent provision of essential medicines and medical materials to its population, including by deploying necessary resources and by accepting international assistance and cooperation; and
4. Ensure the rights to freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, both online and offline, in particular by revoking the use of military force to control public order, and ceasing state security raids such as “Operation Liberation and Protection of the People”.

**Observations**

Canada remains gravely concerned by the drastic increase in human rights violations since Venezuela’s last UPR review across a wide range of civil, political, economic and social rights.