**48th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Italy**

Thank you, Mister President.

Canada thanks Italy for participating in this UPR, and welcomes positive steps taken by Italy to strengthen national legislation, policies and institutional frameworks to promote gender equality, and to prevent and combat violence against women and girls.

Canada recommends that Italy:

1. Improve living and health conditions in Italian detention facilities.
2. Enact laws, policies and health system guidelines that mitigate conscientious objection to carrying out safe and timely abortion, to eliminate barriers for those wishing to access safe abortion and to align with international human rights law and standards.
3. Continue to cooperate with UN HCR, IOM and NGOs to comply with international law related to search and rescue operations at sea.
4. Enact legislation that recognizes both parents as a child’s legal guardians in cases where both parents are of the same gender.

Canada encourages Italy to accelerate efforts to establish an independent national institution for the implementation and monitoring of human rights, in compliance with the Paris Principles.