**UPR 28, November 8, 2017**

**Canada’s Recommendations for Guatemala’s UPR**

Thank you Mr. President.

Canada commends Guatemala for its important efforts to improve its access to justice and fight corruption since the last review. We are, however, concerned about recent actions that undermine this progress.

Canada recommends that Guatemala:

1. Adopt measures to ensure the sustainability of recent efforts to fight corruption, such as legal and public policy reforms, to improve public confidence in the justice system and to increase its independence.
2. Substantially increase state spending on programs for Indigenous peoples and institutions. This should help address poverty while ensuring the meaningful participation of, and consultation with, Indigenous peoples in decisions affecting them or their rights.
3. Allocate appropriate resources for the effective application of the law against femicide and other forms of gender-based violence, including better access to services for victims.
4. Develop a gender- and culturally differentiated public policy for the protection of human rights defenders, and ensure adequate political support and resources for its implementation.

**Observations**

Canada welcomes Guatemala’s targeted efforts to reduce malnutrition. As recommended by Canada in the last UPR, we urge Guatemala to fulfil its commitment to reduce chronic malnutrition by 10%, including through the development of a comprehensive policy to address food insecurity. Canada welcomes the fact that Guatemala’s Constitutional Court recently found death penalty unconstitutional in civilian cases.