**UPR 28, November 13, 2017**

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

**Recommendations**

Thank you, Mr. President. Canada thanks Zambia for its presentation and commends its national and international commitment to ending child, early and forced marriage. Canada welcomes the strong cooperation between our countries on this issue.

Canada recommends that Zambia:

1. Reform the current Public Order Act to include measures that fully uphold the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, making it more conducive to political participation by all Zambians. Ensure that enforcement of the Act is consistent with Zambia’s human rights obligations, including through training of its security forces.
2. Ensure media freedom by providing full editorial independence to publicly-owned media. Ensure the impartiality of the Independent Broadcasting Authority and enact legislation to facilitate access to information.
3. Repeal laws which criminalize same-sex conduct between adults and review all legislation, policies and programs to foster equality and prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.
4. Fully fund and implement the Anti Gender Based Violence Act, the Gender Equity and Equality Act, and other legislation and policies that will protect girls from child, early and forced marriage and other forms of abuse.