**UPR37**

**21 January 2021**

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

Thank you, Madam President.

Canada welcomes the positive steps taken by Oman to accede to a number of international conventions since its last UPR as well as the recent reforms to Oman’s labour law.

Canada recommends that Oman:

1. Ensure that the Penal Code and other relevant legislation are aligned with international standards and codify and protect rights of free speech, as well as freedom of association and assembly.
2. Ensure full implementation of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women,* including Article 9(2) which grants women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children, and Article 16, granting women equal rights in matters relating to marriage and family relations.
3. Replace the *Kafala* system in order to improve conditions for migrant workers and reform existing labour laws to include domestic workers.

Canada is concerned about the January 2018 amendments to the Penal Code, which have curbed rights to free speech. Canada urges the Government of Oman to review pertinent legislation with a view to protecting freedom of association and assembly.