**UPR38**

**3 May 2021**

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

Thank you, Madam President.

Canada welcomes Namibia’s presentation, and its leadership in promoting media freedom.

Canada recommends that Namibia:

1. Decriminalize sexual activity between same-sex consenting adults and ensure full legal equality and protections against discrimination.
2. Allocate adequate resources to programmes promoting Indigenous well-being and addressing discrimination and abuse of Indigenous peoples in the health care and education systems.
3. Develop and resource a framework with specific timelines to monitor the implementation of measures adopted to prevent and address gender-based violence.
4. Ensure that existing national cybercrime, data protection and privacy legislation is fully compliant with international human rights standards.

Canada remains concerned by the continuing high rates of violence against women and girls, which has intensified since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Canada is also concerned about the prevalence of child marriage, which disproportionately affects school-age girls and adolescents.