**UPR 39, November 10, 2021**

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

Thank you, Madam President.

Canada welcomes Thailand’s participation in the UPR process.

Canada recommends that Thailand:

1. Amend, repeal or restrict the use of legislation that curtails the exercise of rights of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including online, with particular reference to Criminal Code sections 112 and 116 and the *Computer Crime Act*.
2. In line with Thailand’s international commitments relating to the rights of children, migrants and vulnerable minorities, strengthen efforts to protect the rights of persons who are marginalized and most vulnerable, including women, migrant workers, children, and LGBTI persons, while also taking steps to foster their fuller inclusion and to increase women’s participation in decision-making.
3. Adopt legislation to implement Thailand’s international human rights commitments on torture and enforced disappearance, and investigate and prosecute all cases of alleged enforced disappearance.
4. Ensure that potential new legislation governing the operations of the non-profit sector does not restrict the activities of civil society in a manner inconsistent with Thailand’s international obligations, that all stakeholders are consulted on such legislation, and that the work of human rights defenders is encouraged and protected.

Canada notes that Thailand’s accession to the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees and its optional protocol would be an important milestone, and encourages continued efforts to provide those fleeing persecution safe haven and assistance in Thailand, including including Myanmar Rohingya and other refugees, and Uyghurs from China.

Canada would welcome the development of national legislation that enshrines in law the approach Thailand has taken on LGBTI inclusion, particularly in recognizing same-sex unions and in prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.