**UPR 39, November 5, 2021**

**Recommendations by Canada for the United Republic of Tanzania’s UPR**

Canada welcomes the priority Tanzania attaches to promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Canada recommends that Tanzania:

1. Implement the 2019 decision that the *1971 Law of Marriage Act* is revised to set the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for both girls and boys and to make it consistent with the 2009 *Law of the Child Act* which defines a child as any person below 18;
2. Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity and decriminalize same-sex activity between consenting adults;
3. Amend the domestic legal framework to ensure respect for the rights to freedom of expression, to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and to trial without undue delay, as guaranteed by the Constitution of Tanzania and international human rights instruments to which Tanzania is a party, and to facilitate their exercise by all Tanzanians, including through civil society organizations, political parties, and the media;

1. Uphold the rights of refugee claimants in Tanzania and ensure that those seeking asylum are protected pending status determination, that refugee status determination is conducted in an impartial, fair, and timely manner, and that any repatriation of refugee claimants is conducted in accordance with Tanzania’s international human rights obligations.

Canada welcomes Tanzania’s ongoing efforts to combat female genital mutilation, and the recent announcement that gender desks have been officially incorporated into the Tanzanian Police Force’s General Orders.

Canada welcomes Tanzania’s ongoing participation in the UPR. As a friend to Tanzania for over six decades, Canada remains committed to cooperating with Tanzania on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.