UPR 42, January 26, 2023

1 min 15 sec

**Republic of Korea**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada welcomes the progress made since the Republic of Korea’s last UPR, and notes the Republic of Korea’s commitment to advancing human rights as part of its “Global Pivotal State” foreign policy.

Canada wishes the Republic of Korea a successful review and makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt an anti-discrimination law prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, and abolish Article 92-6 of the Military Criminal Act, which criminalizes consensual same-sex relations.
2. Allow conscientious objectors to serve for a length comparable to that of military service and with a variety of options to serve, taking into account the range of talent and skills that conscientious objectors can contribute to the nation.
3. Fully abolish the death penalty, which has been under a de facto moratorium for 25 years.

Observations (if time allows):

In addition, Canada would urge the government of the Republic of Korea to address systemic barriers to gender equality, and continue taking steps to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls.

Approved: SEOUL/Mawhinney, OPD/Weldon Epp, IOD