**UPR 30, May 15, 2018**

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

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada encourages Azerbaijan to further strengthen protections for civil society, women and LGBTI people.

Canada recommends that Azerbaijan:

1. Revise legislation requiring civil society organizations to register activities to better protect the effective operation of civil society and media, consistent with international law.
2. Investigate promptly and impartially all allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention of civil society actors and develop transparent processes to ensure ready access to legal representation.
3. Provide training to law enforcement, judiciary and other stakeholders on handling cases of violence against women and ensure all cases are promptly and thoroughly investigated.
4. Ensure LGBTI people are protected against all forms of discrimination and violence people in both law and practice.

Canada remains concerned with the administrative burden on NGOs working in the country, as well as with issues relating to detention and accessing legal representation.