**UPR 30, May 14, 2018**

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

Canada applauds Bangladesh’s humanitarian efforts in addressing the Rohingya crisis and commits to continuing a strong partnership with Bangladesh on this issue of international importance.

Canada recommends that Bangladesh:

* + - * Take prompt and effective measures to ensure that freedom of assembly and expression extends in practice to all people, media, civil society and political parties, throughout the upcoming election campaign and beyond, including activities conducted online.
* Eliminate child, early and forced marriage, including by reforming the Child Marriage Restraint Act to remove the exception for child marriage in “special cases,” as this term is not defined and is open to abuse.
* Take active steps to include LGBTI persons in human rights legislation in recognition of the many dangers and other challenges faced by the community, including the *hijra*.

Despite the progress made to date on improving working conditions in Bangladesh’s’ ready-made garments sector, more work remains to be done. Canada calls on the Government of Bangladesh to fully implement its obligations under international conventions, specifically with respect to ILO Conventions 87 and 98 on freedom of association and collective bargaining as well as further alignment of the draft *Export Processing Zone Act* with the *Bangladesh Labour Act*.