**UPR 30, May 9, 2018**

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

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada commends Uzbekistan’s work in addressing human rights challenges, including child labour in the cotton sector. We hope to see progress entrenched through continued reform.

Canada recommends that Uzbekistan:

1. Collaborate with the ILO to end the systematic use of forced labour of adults in the cotton sector and develop a comprehensive plan to eliminate its use.
2. Revise practices in detention facilities to eliminate use of torture or other cruel treatment or punishment; employ independent monitoring, and thoroughly investigate and prosecute allegations of such practices.
3. Repeal legislation that criminalizes consensual same-sex conduct and adopt laws to prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
4. Revise provisions in the country’s criminal and administrative codes relating to freedom of religion or belief, so as to conform with Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Canada hopes for continued progress in Uzbekistan, particularly in the area of harassment of persons, including civil society actors and journalists.