**UPR 31, November 6, 2018**

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

Thank you Mr. President.

Canada welcomes Nigeria’s 2016 national strategy to end child marriage and we look forward to its full implementation.

Canada recommends that Nigeria:

1. Investigate all reported cases of human rights violations by security forces, bring to justice suspected perpetrators, and ensure transparency, including by making public the February 2018 report of the Presidential Panel to Review Compliance of the Armed Forces.
2. Ensure that the fundamental rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly are respected and protected for all Nigerians without distinction of any kind and in accordance with Chapter IV of the 1999 Constitution.
3. Improve the status of women and girls by enacting the National Gender Policy, implementing the CEDAW Convention and the Maputo Protocol to the African charter on Human and People’s Rights, and fully implementing the Child Rights Act.
4. Take steps to ensure the operational and financial independence of the National Human Rights Commission, including by filling all positions in the Governing Council, in accordance with the Constitution.

Canada encourages Nigeria to continue strengthening its democracy by ensuring the right of all individuals and groups to participate in free and fair general elections in 2019.