**UPR 31, November 8, 2018**

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

Mr. President,

Canada thanks Malaysia for its presentation and commends its commitment to ratify all core human rights treaties; repeal and amend laws limiting freedom of expression; protect human rights defenders; and abolish the death penalty.

Canada recommends that Malaysia:

1. Review and repeal laws that directly or indirectly criminalise consensual same-sex sexual activity and take action to prevent violence, discrimination and corporal punishment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.
2. Review state and federal laws to raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 for everyone in Malaysia and adopt policies to discourage child marriage.
3. Take immediate legislative or administrative measures, including ratifying the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol, to provide legal status to refugees and asylum-seekers to allow them to reside, work and access education and healthcare in Malaysia
4. Criminalize marital rape by amending Section 375 of the Penal Code.

We remain concerned about the lack of legal status for refugees and asylum seekers; the continued practice of child marriage; and lack of protections for the LGBTI community against discrimination, violence and corporal punishment.

Canada kindly requests timelines regarding Malaysia’s stated human rights commitments.