**UPR33**

**Recommendations by Canada for Costa Rica’s UPR**

**13 May 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada thanks Costa Rica for its presentation and welcomes the positive steps taken by Costa Rica to fight discrimination and violence against women and girls and against LGBTI persons.

Canada recommends that Costa Rica:

1. Ensure the effective protection of women and girls by strengthening domestic mechanisms and implementing laws addressing gender violence.
2. Adopt clear medical guidelines on access to therapeutic abortion in accordance with Costa Rican law, international standards and best practices promoted by the WHO.
3. Adopt legislation criminalizing hate crimes for reasons of sexual orientation or gender identity.
4. Take steps to guarantee full and effective protection of the rights of Indigenous peoples through participatory and inclusive processes, including compliance with cautionary measures granted by the Inter-American Court and the implementation of recommendations made by other specialized bodies.

Canada commends Costa Rica for its commitment to democracy and human rights. We encourage Costa Rica to take further actions towards achieving equality and combatting discrimination, particularly for the most marginalized and vulnerable groups.