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

**14 May 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada commends the steps taken by the Government of Ethiopia since its last review to improve respect for human rights.

Canada recommends that Ethiopia:

1. Accelerate the pace of reforms to ensure the independence of the judiciary and amend restrictive legislation, including the Anti-Terror Proclamation, as well as Media and Electoral Laws, in line with international standards.
2. Improve access and remove barriers to education for women and girls to improve health outcomes and reduce poverty.
3. Strengthen the mandate and ensure the independence of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission.
4. Continue to address the drivers of intercommunal conflict and guarantee that conflict-displaced populations are not returned home until it is safe.

Canada welcomes the new law governing civil society organizations, increasing respect in the human rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association. This will allow these organizations to play a greater role in advancing sustainable development.