**UPR36**

**Canada’s recommendations for Liberia’s UPR**

**2 November 2020**

Thank you, Madam President.

We congratulate the Liberian government for the adoption of the 2016 amendment to its election law ensuring better representation of women among candidates. We also welcome Liberia’s commitment to engage with stakeholders to tackle sexual and gender based violence.

Canada recommends that Liberia:

1. Continue efforts to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, in particular, and adopt legislation criminalizing genital mutilation, in accordance with the Maputo Protocol.
2. Strengthen measures to end spousal and marital rape.
3. Combat widespread impunity for violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and repeal all provisions in domestic law, including section 14.79 of the Penal Code, that criminalize same-sex activities among consenting adults.
4. Prohibit discrimination based on gender, gender identity or sexual orientation in all aspects of social life, including health care, education, housing and access to all services.

Canada congratulates Liberia for the recent adoption of the Domestic Violence Act, in which domestic violence is now recognized as a serious crime. We hope that its implementation will promote and protect the human rights of women and girls.