**UPR36**

**Canada’s recommendations for Malawi’s UPR**

**3 November 2020**

Thank you, Madam President.

Canada congratulates Malawi for its historical presidential election rerun last June, demonstrating a strong commitment to the rule of law. We are encouraged by the new administration’s commitment to openness in government, its strong desire to rid the country of corruption and its efforts to reform institutions of government, including the judicial system and law enforcement, so that Malawians can better enjoy the rights and freedoms to which they are entitled.

Canada recommends that Malawi:

1. Continue to strengthen mechanisms to prevent and prohibit discrimination against vulnerable groups, including persons with albinism.
2. Repeal those sections of the Malawi penal code that criminalise same sex sexual activity between consenting adults as well as those that criminalise the gender identity/expression of transgender people such as the prescription for the appearance of men.
3. Prohibit discrimination based on gender, gender identity or sexual orientation in all aspects of social life.
4. Take meaningful action to address prison overcrowding, including through reducing the lengthy periods of pretrial detention.