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SPEAKER
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28th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
18 March, 2015

Item 6: Consideration of the Universal Periodic Review Reports – EL SALVADOR

Statement by Action Canada for Population and Development

Action Canada makes this statement in collaboration with the Sexual Rights Initiative.

We welcome the willingness of the government of El Salvador to engage in the UPR process and its attention to sexual rights issues. In particular, we welcome the acceptance of recommendation 103.9 raised by Argentina, which calls on the government to adopt measures guaranteeing the protection of women who are victims of discrimination and violence on the grounds of their sexual orientation or gender condition. We urge the government of El Salvador to consult and collaborate with local NGOs working on these issues in the implementation of this recommendation.

El Salvador has received other recommendations related to LGBTI people and human rights violations and abuses based on gender identity and sexual orientation, namely recommendations 105.32 through 36, and we hope that they receive the same consideration/ welcome their acceptance/ express concern that they have not been accepted. Particularly in relation to those recommendations that address gender recognition for transgender persons, we urge the government to adopt a Gender Identity Law that allows transgender persons to change their identity documents in concordance to their gender identity.

We regret that the government's responses to recommendations contained in paragraph 105 were not provided in writing in advance. We urge the government to accept and implement recommendations 105.49 through 62 pertaining to abortion law reform and access to safe abortion, contraception and other sexual and reproductive health services as well as sexuality education.

Thank you.