

UPR WORKING GROUP –FOURTH SESSION
(2-13 FEBRUARY 2009)

UPR of CANADA – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE
(3 February 2009)

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to welcome the Delegation of Canada and thank them for their presentation. As a developed country Canada is known for its commitment to the upholding of the highest human rights standards.

Mr. Chairman,

2. CERD has regretted the lack of progress on discrimination against First Nations women and children. Similarly, several other UN Treaty Bodies such as CEDAW & CESCR have highlighted the need for legislation to address the discriminatory effects of the Indian Act on the transmission of Indian status to children, the rights to marry, own and inherit property. What is the response of the Canadian delegation in this regard?

3. Concern has also been expressed by CEDAW about the lack of full protection and redress for Aboriginal women and those belonging to ethnic minorities who suffer from multiple discrimination in employment, housing, education and health care. In this regard, a series of measures had been recommended, including temporary special measures, to address the issue of discrimination. Could the delegation of Canada please provide us with information with regard to the measures taken so far?

4. CEDAW has also expressed concern over the fact that violence against women, especially Aboriginal women remains a significant problem in Canada. Would the delegation of Canada please advise us on the reasons that could be attributed to this problem and give us the details of the measures being taken to address it?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
