

Statement by Mr. Charles Gibson, Second Secretary Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva at the 44th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group Presentation of UPR Report by the Government of Canada 10 November 2023

Thank you, Mr./Madam President/Vice-President.

The Bahamas thanks Canada for the report and acknowledges significant advancements made regarding climate change and human rights.

Canada's leadership including international cooperation, is commendable. The recent CANADA-CARICOM Summit, focusing on climate change, immigration, and regional security, is a testament to this commitment.

We also recognize Canada's strides in combating human trafficking, highlighting the implementation of a national strategy with comprehensive training, stable funding for victim services, and improved data collection methods.

In a constructive spirit, The Bahamas recommends that Canada:

- (i) Intensify efforts to integrate climate change awareness and sustainability into early education and youth skills programs.
- (ii) Encourage youth participation in climate action and decision-making through government-supported initiatives.

We wish Canada a successful UPR.

I thank you.