Thank you Mr. Coordinator

I would like to provide a brief update on Canada’s ratification efforts since the last Meeting of States Parties in Oslo.

Canada’s domestic implementation legislation was adopted by the Senate and referred to the House of Commons on December 4, 2012. First Reading of the Bill in the House of Commons took place on December 6, 2012.

The next step in Canada’s ratification process will be Second Reading of the Bill in the House of Commons, which we are hopeful, will occur this spring. It is expected that the Bill will be referred to the Foreign Affairs and International Development committee for consideration, after which it will be returned to the House for Third Reading and passage. Once the Bill is passed by both the Senate and the House, it will receive Royal Assent and come into force. Following the completion of all these steps in the legislative process, Canada will be in a position to deposit its instrument of ratification.

Thank you.