



45th Human Rights Council Session

Item 10 –General Debate Item 10

Statement by the International Lesbian and Gay Association

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Thank you, Madam President,

We have seen progressive measures taken to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons in past months. We would like to share some recent best practices of governments across the world in the capacity-building spirit of Item 10 of the Human Rights Council.

In **Argentina**, in an historic decision, the Government established a 1% quota for trans persons in the National Public Sector. The decree further establishes rights to just and satisfactory working conditions and to protection against unemployment, without discrimination on grounds of gender identity or expression¹.

It is fundamental that governments put in place legislation and public policies that promote social and economic inclusion of trans and gender-diverse persons. Legal gender recognition is a fundamental part of this process². In **India**, the government issued a regulation allowing trans persons to change their names and gender markers based on self-determination³. Other 9 UN Member-states (or jurisdictions within them) have introduced legal gender recognition processes without abusive preconditions since 2018, including **Australia**, **Chile** and **Portugal**⁴.

In **Asia**, Important steps in ensuring equal access to marriage to same-sex couples were taken in Thailand, Japan and Hong Kong.

Further, we have seen progressive efforts to ban so-called “conversion therapies”, recently in **Canada**⁵, **Israel**⁶ and in **Northern Ireland**⁷. We call for a global ban in these harmful practices which are by their very nature degrading, inhuman and cruel and create a significant risk of torture.

Lastly, we welcome the decision by the government of **Sudan**⁸ to remove the death penalty as a punitive measure for homosexuality and we encourage all UN member states to abolish capital punishment and any kind of criminalization for consensual same-sex sexual acts between adults.

¹ BA Times. [Argentina establishes 1% quota for trans workers in civil service jobs](https://bit.ly/2Sk800I). <<https://bit.ly/2Sk800I>>

² UN IE SOGI Report. [A/74/181](https://bit.ly/2GmToed)

³ Indian Express. Transgender rules issued: no medical exam needed to declare desired sex. <<https://bit.ly/2GmToed>>

⁴ ILGA World. Trans Legal Mapping Report. <<https://bit.ly/2GmQcPV>>

⁵ NBC News. Canada reintroduces bill banning LGBTQ conversion therapy. <<https://nbcnews.to/36yriTO>>

⁶ BBC News. Israel: 'Gay conversion' therapy ban bill passed by MPs. <<https://bbc.in/34yud0D>>

⁷ Irish Legal News. NI: Conversion therapy for LGBT people to be banned. <<https://bit.ly/33szMyl>>.

⁸ Pan Africa ILGA. Sudan repeals death penalty for homosexuality. <<https://bit.ly/33kqYua>>



I thank you madam president.