

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 31st Session

Universal Periodic Review of Monaco

Statement by Australia

Australia thanks Monaco for its report and commends Monaco's strong human rights record. Australia notes that in 2015 Monaco inaugurated its first national human rights body - the High Commission for the Protection of Rights, Liberties and for Mediation.

Australia acknowledges that since its last Universal Periodic Review, Monaco has ratified a range of international legal instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. **Australia recommends Monaco ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.**

Australia notes Monaco lacks clear and express legislative prohibition of discrimination based on nationality, race or ethnicity. **Australia recommends Monaco take active steps to ensure its domestic legislation prohibits discrimination based on nationality, race or ethnicity in line with the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.**

Noting sporadic allegations of government corruption, **Australia recommends Monaco improve its government transparency and accountability, including by instituting mechanisms to ensure openness and public consultation in parliamentary processes.**

Australia recommends Monaco continue to promote women's rights, including ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services.

190 words