

## Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 31st Session

### Universal Periodic Review of Senegal

#### Statement by Australia

Australia welcomes positive measures taken by Senegal in adopting a national strategy on equality and non-discrimination of women. However, we note that access to sexual and reproductive health services remains limited in Senegal. **Australia recommends Senegal support the full realisation of sexual and reproductive rights and access to relevant health services for all.**

Australia is concerned by reports of child exploitation and trafficking through some educational institutions in Senegal. **Australia recommends Senegal prioritise the full and effective implementation of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.**

We note that Senegal's national human rights institution, the Comité Sénégalais, lacks the necessary resources to enable it to function independently. **Australia recommends that Senegal enact legislation to bring the Comité Sénégalais into full compliance with the Paris Principles.**

Australia is deeply concerned that legislation criminalising homosexuality remains in force in Senegal. **Australia recommends that Senegal decriminalise same-sex relationships between consenting adults and strengthen efforts to address inequality, violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.**

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