

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 32nd Session

Universal Periodic Review of Cambodia

Statement by Australia

Australia welcomes the Cambodian delegation.

Australia remains concerned about the constrained democratic space and restrictions on freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in Cambodia. We **recommend Cambodia repeal the two sets of amendments to the Law on Political Parties passed in 2017, review the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations and review the Trade Union Law to ensure all three laws are consistent with Cambodia’s obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.**

Australia **recommends the Government of Cambodia establish an independent national human rights institution, consistent with the Paris Principles.**

Australia welcomes Cambodia’s National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women. Australia **recommends that Cambodia allocate sufficient human and financial resources to establish at least five, one-stop service centres by 2024 to provide support services free of charge to victims of gender-based violence.**

Finally, Australia **recommends Cambodia introduce, by the end of 2023, an Anti-Discrimination Law which guarantees equality and explicitly prohibits discrimination of all kinds, including on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.**