

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Angola

Statement by Australia

Thursday 7 November 2019

Thank you, [President/Vice President].

Australia acknowledges the progress Angola has made on human rights and encourages Angola to continue these positive reforms. Australia particularly welcomes the Penal Code reform which ends the criminalisation of homosexuality and bans discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

Australia also welcomes recent progress combatting corruption and commends Angola for its accession on 2 October to the Second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

Australia recommends that **Angola**:

1. Continues legislative reforms to increase media freedom and strengthen protection of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and end the arbitrary arrest of journalists and peaceful protesters.
2. Takes further action to end extra-judicial killings of criminal suspects under investigation and to allow for humanitarian access to prisoners.
3. Takes further action to prevent forced evictions of migrants and ensure that, where necessary, evictions take place in accordance with the law.