**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Fiji**

**Statement by Australia**

**Wednesday 6 November 2019**

Thank you [President/Vice President]

Australia commends Fiji’s ratification of key international human rights instruments. We also welcome measures taken by Fiji with a view to addressing previous recommendations, including the appointment of a Chairperson to the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission.

Gender-based violence is a challenge that many countries, including Australia and Fiji share, and one that Australia is committed to working with Fiji to address.

Australia recommends that **Fiji**:

1. **Continues working with all stakeholders, including the International Labour Organisation, to progress issues raised in the Joint Implementation Report.**
2. **Continues its efforts to address violence against women and children, including measures to prevent violence and support survivors.**
3. **Takes all necessary steps to ensure the reaccreditation of the Fiji Human Rights and Anti‑Discrimination Commission under the Paris Principles.**