

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Madagascar

Statement by Australia

Monday 11 November 2019

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia welcomes Madagascar's progress since the 2014 UPR including abolishing the death penalty, holding peaceful elections, reducing poverty and human trafficking, and committing to address corruption and improve governance and transparency.

Australia is concerned by reports of corruption as well as unlawful detention, torture and lack of accountability of security forces. We reiterate the importance of protecting the rights of minorities and women and children.

Australia recommends that **Madagascar**:

1. **Expedites alignment of the Anti-torture Act 2008-008 with the Convention against Torture, incorporates it into national Criminal Codes and prosecutes perpetrators of unlawful detention, torture and killings.**
2. **Ensures independent and impartial enquiries are conducted into corruption cases, including in natural resource management, in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2015-25) and that those found guilty face sanctions in accordance with the law.**
3. **Enacts legislation to criminalise all aspects of gender based violence including marital rape, in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.**
4. **Improves resourcing available to bodies protecting the human rights of women, children and minorities, including LGBTI persons.**