

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 35th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Sweden

Statement by Australia

27 January 2020

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends Sweden's long-standing commitment to the protection and advancement of human rights in Sweden and globally. We encourage further progress to advance the rights of all individuals, with an ongoing focus on our shared challenge of combatting violence against women.

Australia recommends that **Sweden:**

1. Continue to combat sexual violence and addressing the causes of under-reporting of rape, as outlined in the National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Men's Violence Against Women.
2. Intensify efforts to promote reconciliation and advance the economic, social and cultural rights and interests of the Sami people, including in relation to land, language, education and participation in decision making, and work to facilitate the repatriation of Sami human remains to the Sami people.
3. Strengthen efforts to protect the human rights of Roma and other 'vulnerable EU citizens' living in Sweden.
4. Define and criminalise torture in its domestic law consistent with Article 1 and Article 4 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in line with recommendations from the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

[184 Words]