

### End of Item Statement – Item 9

Australia strongly believes that freedom of expression is a fundamental part of a vibrant democracy and a culture of accountability.

In respect of the Resolution on the incompatibility between democracy and racism, Australia notes that PP16 does not accurately reflect States' obligations under Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Article 19 provides that the right to freedom of expression may also be subject to lawful restrictions that are necessary for the protection of national security, public order (ordre public), public health or morals, in addition to those that are necessary for the respect of the rights or reputations of others.