

Human Rights Council – 41st Session

Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the extrajudicial killings, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education

Australian Statement

26 June 2019

Australia thanks both Special Rapporteurs for their presentations.

We remain concerned at allegations of extra-judicial killings around the world. The mandate of the **Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial killings, summary or arbitrary executions** is now more important than ever.

Australia expresses its sincere gratitude to the Special Rapporteur for her detailed and important investigation into the murder of Jamal Khashoggi on consular premises, protected by the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Her report is a valuable contribution to transparency and accountability.

The Australian Government has urged Saudi Arabia to cooperate with all efforts to determine facts and secure justice. At the 40th session of this Council, we joined 35 other states to call again for Saudi Arabia's cooperation. As Dr Callamard has noted in her report, that cooperation was not evident.

The Special Rapporteur's report raises serious, unanswered questions about the deplorable circumstances of Mr Khashoggi's death, including how consular premises came to be used in the commission and cover up of this crime. Truth and accountability must be established, for Mr Khashoggi's family and for the international community. Dr Callamard's report is a critical step towards these objectives.

Noting the Special Rapporteur's recommendation that the HRC support the establishment of a Special Procedures Task-Force to support and ensure investigations (para 477), could you provide more detail on possible terms of reference for such a taskforce?

225 Words