

Human Rights Council – 41<sup>st</sup> session  
Item 8 General Debate

8 July 2019

Australian Statement

Thank you Mr President

Independent national human rights institutions play a crucial role in preserving and advancing human rights.

Australia advocates strongly for strengthening the capacity of national human rights institutions to promote and protect human rights – including through our biennial resolution on NHRIs, most recently considered at HRC39, and as a pillar of our HRC membership.

Australia welcomes the summary report of the Consultation on the experiences and practices of national human rights institutions in working to support the establishment and maintenance of inclusive societies and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The consultation, mandated by HRC resolution 39/17, was an excellent opportunity to hear from States, NHRIs and other key stakeholders on the role NHRIs play in supporting the establishment and maintenance of inclusive societies.

This work is not only an inherent function of Paris Principles-compliant NHRIs, it also contributes directly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

We welcome the recognition that some NHRIs, consistent with their independent mandates, can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through a monitoring role, and we support the recommendation that Governments should ensure the full participation of all relevant stakeholders, including NHRIs, in efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

We look forward to the Secretary-General's report on best practices of NHRIs, to be submitted at the 45<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council.

Thank you.

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