

Human Rights Council – 41st Session

Item 10: Annual Thematic Discussion on Technical Cooperation - Human Rights of Older Persons

Wednesday 10 July 2019

Australian Statement

Australia welcomes a discussion on innovative ways to promote and protect the rights of older persons to their independence as well as active and healthy ageing.

Australia has developed a suite of policy measures to uphold older persons' rights, with investments that take a human rights-based approach to ageing. These investments include measures to improve the provision of mental health support, more comprehensive palliative care to older Australians in residential care, and targeted investments for people living with dementia.

A Royal Commission into Australia's aged care system is being held in Australia. The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, will help us to better understand the challenges and the opportunities of delivering aged care services now and into the future. The Royal Commission will also help to build a national culture of respect for senior Australians and Australians as they age.

Australia has made significant progress since November 2018 to better support the rights of older Australians in care. Australia has established an independent Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, new Aged Care Quality Standards, a single Charter of Aged Care Rights and an Aged Care Diversity Framework.

We made a commitment to protect the rights of older persons, and will work to deliver the level of care they deserve as valued members of our society.

Thankyou.

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