

Human Rights Council – 42nd session

General Comment at Action

HRC42 Resolution on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Australia is deeply concerned with the devastating political, economic, social and humanitarian situation in Venezuela, documented in the High Commissioner's July 2019 report, and its particularly heavy impact on the country's children; the High Commissioner's reports of extrajudicial killings and arbitrary detentions by Venezuelan authorities and security forces are extremely troubling.

We are pleased this resolution recognises the gravity of this multifaceted crisis and its broader regional impact as Venezuelans continue to flee their country in search of food, medicine and a future free of oppression.

Importantly, this resolution establishes a Fact Finding Mission to support accountability for the human rights violations and abuses occurring in Venezuela.

In the discussion on L.38/Rev.1 yesterday, many speakers raised the importance of addressing the gravity of the human rights situation in Venezuela and in ensuring accountability. This resolution responds to these concerns.

We ask other states to join us in supporting this resolution, and to urge the Venezuelan authorities to respect the human rights of its citizens and restore access for international humanitarian assistance.