

Human Rights Council – 42nd session

Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's Oral Update on Libya
25 September 2019

Australian Statement

Australia welcomes the Deputy High Commissioner's oral update on Libya. We look forward to a written report at HRC43.

Australia is concerned that the humanitarian situation in Libya, particularly around Tripoli, continues to deteriorate, with mounting civilian casualties. Australia deplores the deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure and is concerned the forced closure of Mitiga airport is restricting the entry of essential humanitarian relief.

Australia urges all parties to comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law. It is essential that all parties allow timely, unimpeded, sustained and safe humanitarian access throughout the country. Australia is deeply concerned by reports of attacks on journalists and widespread sexual and gender-based violence – those responsible must be held to account.

The only solution to the current impasse in Libya is through a cease-fire and an inclusive and Libyan-owned political process. Australia calls on all parties to the conflict to commit to a UN-led political mediation aimed at the establishment of a transitional government representing all Libyans. We urge all parties to prepare for a new constitution and credible democratic elections.

We ask the Deputy High Commissioner how best can the international community help to build conditions conducive to a ceasefire and reconciliation in Libya?

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