

Human Rights Council – 37th Session

Item 3: Clustered Interactive Dialogue on Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy and Special Rapporteur on the sale of children and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material 6 March 2018

Australian Statement

Australia thanks the Special Rapporteurs for their presentations.

Australia agrees with the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children that children can face specific vulnerabilities in the context of surrogacy arrangements. We were pleased to cosponsor the Special Rapporteur's side event on this issue. The international community including states, civil society and the private sector must work together to prevent the sale of children.

We recognise that trafficking is an abusive practice that may be used in the context of surrogacy. We will continue to take appropriate measures to ensure the sale, exploitation or trafficking, of children does not occur for any purpose, including through our *National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery 2015-2019*, and Australia's family and migration law.

Australia would welcome the Special Rapporteur's views on how states can work with civil society to protect children, women and other stakeholders involved in surrogacy arrangements.

On privacy, Australia reaffirms our view that no individual should be subject to arbitrary or unlawful interference with their privacy.

Collecting and using data is becoming increasingly valuable for states, and non-state actors, yet it may come with risks to individuals' privacy. Consistent with international best practice, Australia is committed to maintaining a comprehensive framework for the protection of individuals' personal information.

We would welcome the Special Rapporteur's views on best practice for balancing privacy and open data.

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