**UNGA74 Third Committee**

**Item 72(b): Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on Protection Against Violence and Discrimination based on**

**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**

**Intervention for 24 October 2019**

* Australia welcomes the Independent Expert’s continuing work highlighting the human rights issues facing LGBTI persons globally.
* As a member of the Human Rights Council, we were proud to support renewal of this mandate earlier this year.
* We appreciate your report’s focus on the ongoing impact of discriminatory norms, laws and practices on LGBTI persons.
* It is a timely reminder that all States have a long way to go to ensure full, cross-sectoral equality for LGBTI persons.
* It is also a reminder of the real and ongoing need for this mandate.
* Across the world, LGBTI individuals often do not enjoy the same level of human rights protections as their fellow citizens,
* the Independent Expert’s work is critical to ensuring we meet the targets of the 2030 Agenda and this group is not left behind.
* Australia will continue to support this mandate, as we support all mandates where the Human Rights Council has identified a real and unaddressed need to further human rights protections for the benefit of all.
* We also welcome your report’s detailed analysis of the impact of intersectionality.
* And that marginalization and exclusion can be cumulative, and exacerbated for persons with disability, the elderly, women and children, and members of racial, ethnic or cultural minorities.
* Australia is proud to have made significant strides towards protecting and promoting equal human rights for LGBTI persons. This includes introducing measures that are strengthening social inclusion and equality.