



AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

E-mail australia@un.int

150 East 42nd Street, New York NY 10017-5612 Ph 212 - 351 6600 Fax 212 - 351 6610 www.AustraliaUN.org

UNGA Third Committee Item 72: Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Intervention for 21 October 2019

- Australia welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Australian Government is committed to upholding the rights of persons with disabilities. Australia commends the report for drawing attention to the additional complexities and challenges that older persons with disabilities may encounter.
- Australia supports the rights of persons with disabilities to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination. Australia has a strong universal health coverage system based on a range of initiatives aimed at achieving this.

Existing systems of support

- Australia welcomes the discussion by the Special Rapporteur on ways to promote a human rights-based approach to ageing. In Australia, we are working to provide a holistic system of support for older Australians, across Australia's governments and systems.
- A key component of this system is our ground-breaking National Disability Insurance Scheme, which has benefitted more than 300,000 persons with disabilities in Australia.
- Australia notes the report's concerns about the ability of persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community. In Australia, our National Disability Insurance Scheme places persons with disabilities at the centre of

decisions, giving them greater choice and control over their lives, including where they live.