**UNGA Third Committee**

**Item 3C: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Indigenous peoples**

**Intervention for 11 October 2019**

* Australia thanks the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples for her report and acknowledges her work on the situation of indigenous women and children and self-governance by indigenous peoples.
* Australia agrees that Indigenous women play pivotal leadership roles in their families and communities and are central to the development, growth and diversity of Australian society.
* We appreciate that the Special Rapporteur has continued to pay particular attention to the human rights situations of indigenous women and children in her country visits. Increasing all women and girls’ leadership – including Indigenous women and girls – and their opportunities for economic prosperity and safety are major priorities of the Australian Government.
* Australia agrees with the Special Rapporteur that working with and empowering indigenous women in leadership, ensures their voices are reflected in domestic policies.
* Further to the Special Rapporteur’s recommendation to promote good practices, we are working with communities with greater transparency, including sharing data and funding information to support community decision making to identify priorities and target solutions.
* Australia is partnering with Indigenous Australians in formal, shared decision-making to deliver and monitor the Closing the Gap framework, a national coordination mechanism to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians.
* Could the Special Rapporteur share innovative examples of developing indigenous women as leaders?

*209 words*