

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 31st Session

Universal Periodic Review of Malaysia

Statement by Australia

Australia thanks the Malaysian Delegation for their report and commends the new government's extensive reform agenda and its commitment to improve civil and political rights. We particularly welcome the announcements that Malaysia will abolish the death penalty, indications it will place an immediate moratorium on executions; and suspend application of the *Sedition Act*.

- **We recommend Malaysia ensure early submission to Parliament of legislation abolishing the death penalty and repealing the Sedition Act.**

Australia welcomes Malaysia's pledge to ratify remaining core UN human rights treaties and

- **recommends Malaysia promptly ratify the *ICCPR* and the *Convention Against Torture*.**

We welcome Malaysia's proposed anti-discrimination legislation and

- **Australia recommends Malaysia prioritise the early submission of anti-discrimination legislation to Parliament.**

We note Malaysia recorded some 15,000 child marriages in the past decade, and we welcome the review of the minimum age of marriage.

- **Australia recommends Malaysia take early action to raise the minimum age for marriage to comply with international child rights standards.**