

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Iran

Statement by Australia

Friday 8 November 2019

Thank you Mr President

Australia welcomes the decline in the number of executions in Iran resulting from amendments to the Anti-Narcotics Law.

Australia remains deeply concerned about human rights in Iran.

Australia recommends that **Iran**:

1. Establishes a formal moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards its complete abolition, and as an immediate step prohibits the application of the death penalty for offences committed by minors.
2. Guarantees the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, and releases political prisoners, including women's rights activists, labour rights activists, environmentalists, scholars, lawyers and journalists, detained for exercising these rights.
3. Immediately investigates all allegations involving the torture and other ill treatment of those arrested or detained during the demonstrations in December 2017, and hold those responsible to account.
4. Cooperates fully with UN human rights mechanisms, including by inviting the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran to visit the country.