

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 35th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Guinea

Statement by Australia

21 January 2020

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends steps taken by Guinea to abolish the death penalty, prevent and prohibit female genital mutilation, and criminalise child marriage.

We remain concerned about disproportionate use of force by security forces during anti-government demonstrations, and limits to press freedoms.

Australia recommends that **Guinea**:

1. Safeguard the right to freedom of assembly and expression in law and practice.
2. Fully enforce the bans on female genital mutilation and child marriage, including through education campaigns and by ensuring perpetrators are brought to justice.
3. Criminalise all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including marital rape.
4. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and commute all death sentences.

[118 Words]