

Human Rights Council – 41st Session

Item 10: Interactive Dialogue on the Central African Republic

10 July 2019

Australian Statement

Australia thanks the Independent Expert for her presentation.

We acknowledge the efforts made by the Government of the Central African Republic (CAR) and other signatories to implement the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation. We note the progress made through the establishment of the “inclusive government”, but urge the Government to ensure that state institutions to comply with international human rights law.

Australia calls on the new members of Government as well as all signatories to the Agreement to work with other stakeholders, including the African Union, international partners and civil society, to implement the conditions of the Agreement.

We urge the Government of CAR to support local peace committees and build on their success in resolving disputes and negotiating local truces between armed groups. We also call on the CAR Government to strengthen the role of women and young people in contributing to peacebuilding and conflict resolution initiatives.

Australia remains concerned at the prevalence of violence across CAR, and urges the Government to put in place accountability measures to address human rights violations. We welcome progress towards establishing a Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission, and encourage the Government to ensure that the interests of victims remain central to the Commission’s mandate.

We ask the Independent Expert to elaborate on what continuing and additional measures the Government could take to demobilise the remaining armed groups and to protect civilians from violence.

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