

Human Rights Council – 43rd Session

Item 10: Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on Mali

17 June 2020

Australian Statement

Australia thanks the Independent Expert for his Report.

We welcome efforts made to implement the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali over the last year.

Australia remains concerned by the attacks and instability in central and northern Mali. In this challenging context, we commend the Government of Mali for its engagement with the international community in combating violent extremism.

We also urge the Government of Mali to strengthen the rule of law and investigate violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including sexual and gender-based violence.

We appeal to the Government of Mali to abolish the death penalty and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

We encourage the Government of Mali to continue peacebuilding and reconciliation with all Malian citizens, especially women, to achieve a lasting peace.

Australia asks the Independent Expert what steps could be taken to ensure that Malian women are protected and participate meaningfully in the peace building process underway?

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