



# AUSTRALIA

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## Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 18th Session

### Universal Periodic Review of Cyprus

#### Statement by Australia

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Australia commends the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for its commitment to human rights in the areas of Cyprus under government control.

The persistent division of the island inhibits the full enjoyment of all human rights by the entire population of Cyprus. We encourage the leaders of the two Cypriot communities to reach an enduring and just solution to this issue with the assistance of the Good Offices Mission of the Secretary General and his Special Adviser, former Australian Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer. **Australia recommends the incorporation of a gender perspective in negotiating and implementing any settlement accords.**

Australia notes efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus to combat human trafficking. We remain concerned about the continuing extent of trafficking of humans in Cyprus, particularly for sexual exploitation and forced labour. **Australia recommends the Government of the Republic of Cyprus take all necessary steps to eliminate human trafficking.**

Australia notes the increasing difficulties faced by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus in relation to the management of irregular migration. **Australia recommends the Government of the Republic of Cyprus continue to work to address the challenges posed by the increased flows of irregular migration.**

Speaker: Ms Lauren Steinowsky