



AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

E-mail UN.Geneva@dfat.gov.au

Chemin des Fins 2, Petit Saconnex, 1211 Geneva 19 Ph +41 22 799 9100 Fax +41 22 799 9175 www.geneva.mission.gov.au

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 19th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Côte d'Ivoire

Statement by Australia

Australia commends Côte d'Ivoire on its engagement with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire. We welcome the conformity of the National Human Rights Commission with the Paris Principles and progress in strengthening democratic institutions.

Australia welcomes Côte d'Ivoire's ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. **Australia recommends that Côte d'Ivoire continue to prioritise the investigation and prosecution of serious international crimes regardless of political affiliation and cooperate with the International Criminal Court in this regard.**

Australia notes the centrality of reconciliation to peace and security and **recommends Côte d'Ivoire ensure the participation of all political parties, civil society organisations and community leaders in the work of the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission.**

Australia acknowledges the significant work of the Government in Security Sector Reform and Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration **and recommends that Côte d'Ivoire redouble its efforts to reintegrate former combatants.**

Australia remains deeply concerned by the prevalence of sexual violence in Côte d'Ivoire. **Australia recommends greater resources be allocated to combating sexual violence and to prosecuting perpetrators.**

Speaker: Ms Lauren Stasinosky