

Check against delivery

*23rd session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group, 2 - 13 November 2015*

*Statement by H. E. Mr. Rytis Paulauskas, Ambassador,*

*Permanent Representative of Lithuania*

*at the review of Australia*

Mr. President,

Lithuania warmly welcomes the esteemed delegation of Australia and thanks for the informative National Report.

Lithuania highly commends the progress of the Australian Government in implementing the National plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 and recommends to further effectively fulfil it by means of sustained funding and independent monitoring and evaluation.

Lithuania welcomes the Australia's strong commitment to combating trafficking in persons, highlighted by the Special Rapporteur. In this respect we recommend that Australia improve coordination on trafficking, the monitoring of the implementation of anti-trafficking legislation, ensure the rights of victims are protected including the right to redress and economic and social support.

Also, Lithuania recommends to bring the Australian juvenile justice system in conformity to international standards, including removing minors from the adult justice system and ensuring their rehabilitation. We also recommend to abolish the sentencing of children to life in prison

Lastly, we recommend to ratify the OP-CAT.

Thank you.