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Statement of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the UN Office  
and other International Organizations in Geneva

23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group  
Universal Periodic Review of Australia  
Geneva, 9 November 2015

*Check against delivery*

We warmly welcome the Delegation of Australia and thank the Head of Delegation for the presentation.

My delegation commends Australia for its focus on advancing civil and political rights. In this regard we welcome the appointment of the full-time Human Rights Commissioner.

We highlight Australia's efforts to contribute to the gender equality and good governance on regional and global level, including targeted programmes in the field of building human rights capacity.

Georgia welcomes steps made by the Australian Government towards closing gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in health, education, and employment outcomes.

In the light of the aforesaid Georgia recommends:

- to advance efforts towards recognition of Indigenous Australians as Australia's First Peoples in Australia's Constitution;
- to ratify OPCAT

With this in mind, my delegation wishes the delegation of Australia a successful UPR.

Thank You.