

(Check against delivery)

**Bangladesh statement on the UPR of Australia**

**09 November 2015**

Thank you Mr. President.

Bangladesh welcomes the delegation of Australia and the Government's various actions for promotion and protection of Human Rights. We welcome the Multicultural Policy. We are happy to note that various reports have recognized the benefits of multiculturalism Australia. We commend the Family Tax Benefit existing in Australia.

We also commend Australia's commitment and active engagement in the GFMD and the Nansen Initiative.

However, many challenges still exist in Australia, as mentioned by various treaty bodies and UN mechanisms. CRC was concerned at racial discrimination, commercial sexual exploitation of children. CAT expressed concern at mandatory immigration detention, especially of children. Response of Australia to migrant arrivals has set a poor benchmark. We are also concerned at firsthand reports of discrimination and racism, particularly associated with Islamophobia.

We recommend that Australia,

1. repeals the provisions establishing the mandatory detention of persons entering its territory irregularly;
2. adopts a clear road map to reach ODA target of 0.7 per cent of GNI; and
3. Ceases its practice of interceptions and "push-backs" in its borders.

Thank you."