

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 23<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP  
(2<sup>ND</sup> - 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015):**

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW  
OF AUSTRALIA ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA DELIVERED BY MR. JOSEPH  
OWUSU-ANSAH, FIRST SECRETARY, ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015**

I thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor

The delegation of Ghana welcomes the distinguished delegation of Australia to this session for the second cycle review. Ghana commends Australia for taking steps to implement many of the recommendations provided by member states of this Council during her first cycle review.

Ghana also notes with appreciation the steps taken by Australia to ratify the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The delegation of Ghana is concerned about allegations of cruel and inhumane treatment of asylum seekers at offshore processing centres in Papua New Guinea and Nauru. In this regard, Ghana would like to recommend to the Government of Australia to ensure full compliance with its international obligations regarding the rights of asylum seekers and refugees by expediting the processing of applications by asylum seekers at the various processing centres.

Ghana further recommends to Australia to consider ratifying the following international treaties:

- The Amendments to the Rome Statute of the ICC Adopted in Kampala, Uganda in 2010;
- The Optional Protocol of the CAT;
- ICRMW; and
- ICPPED

To conclude, Ghana wishes Australia every success in the implementation of their second cycle UPR.

I thank you Mr. President.