



**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA**  
**Review of Austria**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council**  
**2 – 13 November 2015**

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Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of the Austria to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. Malaysia appreciates the various initiatives taken by Austria to implement the recommendations accepted during its first Review. We note positively the legislative measures, as well as the formulation of policies and programmes concerning children's rights, gender equality, older persons, and persons with disabilities, amongst others.

3. Nonetheless, we note that there remain challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in Austria, including the persistence of negative attitudes and prejudices against persons belonging to ethnic minorities. In this regard, we wish to propose the following **five recommendations** for the consideration of Austria:

- 3.1. **One:** step-up measures in combating discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against persons belonging to religious and ethnic minorities, particularly Muslims;
- 3.2. **Two:** take more resolute action to combat hate speech and incitement to hatred, including in the media, against member of religious and ethnic minorities;
- 3.3. **Three:** double its efforts in promoting understanding and tolerance among people of different faiths and ethnic backgrounds;
- 3.4. **Four:** bring its Ombudsman Board into compliance with the Paris Principles; and
- 3.5. **Five:** continue efforts in promoting gender equality including ensuring equal pension entitlements for women.

I thank you.

**GENEVA**  
**9 November 2015**