



# AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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## Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 23rd Session Universal Periodic Review of Nepal Statement by Australia

Australia appreciates the engagement of the Nepali delegation in the Universal Periodic Review process.

Australia welcomes progress made by the Government of Nepal in finalising its constitution and acknowledges the difficult process to reconcile the various demands of a large number of ethnic groups and interests. Australia urges all parties to find a resolution to achieve peace and stability for Nepal.

We offer sincere condolences for the loss of life in the April and May earthquakes to the people of Nepal. **Australia recommends Nepal develop a redress mechanism to address all forms of discrimination and human rights violations in post-earthquake reconstruction efforts.**

With the large numbers of Nepalis working abroad, **Australia recommends Nepal to collaborate with civil society, regional and global organisations to protect the rights of migrant workers.**

We welcome the formation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Commission to Investigate Enforced Disappearances and encourage Nepal to conduct these bodies in line with original commitments to comply with international standards. **Australia recommends that Nepal ensures the effective functioning of the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, including a representative approach to appointments.**

We welcome Nepal's commitment to end gender-based violence. **Australia recommends Nepal develop a national action plan to end gender-based violence and to bring rape laws in line with international standards.**