**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 25th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Trinidad and Tobago**

**Statement by Australia**

Australia welcomes the engagement of Trinidad and Tobago in the Universal Periodic Review process.

Australia commends Trinidad and Tobago for its efforts to advance human rights since its UPR in 2011, including ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015. However, persons with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago continue to face discrimination. Implementation of the CRPD will require significant effort and adequate resources to bring about cultural change. **Australia recommends Trinidad and Tobago review and revise domestic legislation and policies to reflect the provisions and principles of the CRPD.**

Australia notes that no executions have taken place in Trinidad and Tobago since 1999, establishing a moratorium on the death penalty in practice. **Australia recommends Trinidad and Tobago establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.**

In its 2011 UPR, Trinidad and Tobago noted the recommendation to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. **Australia recommends that Trinidad and Tobago establish an independent human rights institution that conforms to the Paris Principles.**

Australia remains concerned that violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons has not been addressed through legislative and policy instruments. **Australia recommends Trinidad and Tobago enact legislation prohibiting discrimination against LGBTI persons, including removing laws criminalising same sex activity.**