**UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review – 45th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Senegal**

**22 January 2024**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia acknowledges Senegal’s efforts to bring its Human Rights Commission into compliance with the Paris Principles.

Australia is concerned by reports of excessive use of force against protesters by security personnel, as well as restrictions to freedoms of information, expression and peaceful assembly since Senegal’s last review, including arrests of journalists.

Australia recommends **Senegal**:

1. **Uphold the rights to freedom of information, expression and peaceful assembly.**
2. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.**
3. **Investigate cases of excessive use of force by security personnel against protesters and bring perpetrators to account.**

[103 **words]**