**UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review – 46th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Cambodia**

**8 May 2024**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, [President/Vice President].

Australia commends Cambodia’s progress on gender equality, social inclusion and LGBTQIA+ rights. We welcome the [one-stop referral centres for gender-based violence victims and] development of a National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women.

Australia remains concerned by Cambodia’s restricted civic and political space.

Australia recommends **Cambodia**:

1. **Permit genuine political competition, expand civic space, and uphold rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.**
2. **Ensure laws and their implementation are consistent with international obligations, including by reviewing the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Associations and the Law on Trade Unions, and repealing 2023 amendments to the Law on Elections and 2017 amendments to the Law on Political Parties.**
3. **Continue positive progress to full equality for LGBTQIA+ persons, including moving toward legalising same-sex marriage.**

[128 words with bracketed text, 120 words without. Bracketed text to be used only if time permits]