**UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review – 48th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Italy**

**20 January 2025**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, President.

Australia thanks the delegation of Italy for their presentation.

Australia acknowledges the challenges posed to Italy by significantly increased flows of irregular migration and commends Italy’s ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking, including through adoption of a National Action Plan against trafficking and serious exploitation of human beings.

Australia recommends **Italy:**

1. **Establish an independent national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles.**
2. **Strengthen laws and improve government action plans and policies to address violence against women.**
3. **Extend existing legislation on hate speech and hate crimes to include protections for LGBTQIA+ persons.**

Thank you.