

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY MR. FRANCIS D. KOTIA,**

**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, ON BEHALF OF GHANA**

**AT THE 37TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**MONDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 2021**

**REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA**

Thank you, Madam President.

My delegation welcomes Australia to the UPR Working Group.

We commend the steps taken by the Government since their last UPR to promote and protect human rights in the country, including establishing the Standing National Human Rights Mechanism. We further note the ratification of **OP-CAT** and the Paris Agreement.

We recommend the following:

1. Continue to ensure the full implementation of domestic and international laws to end all forms of discrimination including discrimination against race, culture, religion;
2. Continue to reinforce relevant measures to ensure the protection of the vulnerable population, including women and girls with disabilities and indigenous women and girls and ;
3. Continue to ensure improvement in the conditions of refugees to meet human rights standards and International treaties.

We wish Australia every success with the UPR.

I thank you.