37th session of the UPR Working Group

# Review of Australia

# Recommendations by Sweden

# Delivered by: H.E. Ms Anna Jardfelt, Ambassador, Permanent Representative

20 January 2021

Madam/Mr. President,

Sweden welcomes Australia’s commitment to the protection of human rights and the positive developments since the last UPR-review, notably the amendment of the federal Marriage Act that legalized same-sex marriage and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT). However, there are still areas that could be further improved.

Sweden would therefore like to make the following recommendations:

1. To raise the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years, in line with international standards and as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
2. To advance measures towards the full realization of the rights of indigenous peoples, including through their recognition in the Constitution.
3. To adopt national legislation that prohibits sterilization of persons with disabilities, in the absence of their informed and free consent.

Thank you.