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President

We would like to **commend** Australia for its ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, as well as legislative amendments to allow same-sex marriages in Australia and recognise same-sex marriages overseas.

New Zealand **recommends** that Australia advance the necessary referendum pathway to reflect its commitment to recognising Indigenous Australians in the Constitution.

New Zealand **recommends** that Australia continue its work to address the ongoing reports of entrenched inequalities and overrepresentation across all low socio-economic indicators that disproportionally affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, especially in the areas of health and well-being, education, and justice.

New Zealand **recommends** that Australia continue efforts to preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Indigenous peoples. Finally, we **recommend** that Australia improve statutory protections at all levels of government for Traditional Owners seeking to protect their cultural sites.

Thank you President.