**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 39th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Tanzania**

**Statement by Australia**

**5 November 2021**

Australia welcomes Tanzania’s acceptance of previous UPR recommendations. We look forward to the implementation of the government’s commitment to allow pregnant school-age girls to continue their education.

Australia remains concerned, however, by restrictions on freedom of expression, and by reports of ongoing discrimination against minority groups.

Australia recommends therefore that **Tanzania:**

1. **Repeal or amend laws unreasonably restricting freedom of expression, including the *2015 Statistics Act*, *2015 Cybercrimes Act* and *2016 Media Services Act*.**
2. **Amend the *1971 Marriage Act* to raise the marriage age for girls to 18, as ordered by the Supreme Court of Appeal in 2019.**
3. **Accelerate implementation of the CRPD.**
4. **Repeal or amend laws discriminating against LGBTI persons, including Section 154 of the Penal Code that criminalises consensual same-sex acts among adults.**
5. **Establish an immediate formal moratorium on the mandatory death penalty with a view to its abolition; and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.**

I thank you.