**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 43rd Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Mali**

**2 May 2023**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends Mali for maintaining its moratorium on the use of the death penalty since its last review.

We are deeply concerned by the deteriorating human rights situation due to ongoing violence and instability in Mali. We urge Mali to fully investigate all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, which is crucial to combatting impunity.

Australia recommends **Mali’s transitional authorities**:

1. **Abolish the death penalty.**
2. **Ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses by prosecuting perpetrators, including within the security forces and non-state armed groups.**
3. **Strengthen the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, including by criminalising female genital mutilation, and preventing child, early and forced marriage.**

[118 words]