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

**Universal Periodic Review of The Bahamas**

**3 May 2023**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends The Bahamas for its progress in advancing human rights since its last UPR appearance, including its work towards introducing legislation to establish marital rape as a sexual offence and to redefine consent, in line with international treaty obligations.

Australia recommends **The Bahamas:**

1. **Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.**
2. **Amend the Constitution to include prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.**
3. **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, as a step toward complete abolition.**

[100 words]