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

**Universal Periodic Review of Burundi**

**4 May 2023**

**Statement by Australia**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends Burundi for its efforts to tackle corruption and improve governance since its last UPR.

Australia is deeply concerned by reports of ongoing human rights violations in Burundi, including alleged torture, abuse and incarceration of journalists and human rights activists. We are also concerned by ongoing reports of discrimination against communities along ethnic lines.

Australia recommends **Burundi**:

1. **Investigate and prosecute those accused of alleged extrajudicial killings and torture.**
2. **Promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to ethnic and racial minorities, including with respect to education, employment, and participation in public and political affairs.**
3. **Repeal laws criminalising consensual same-sex relations between adults.**

[110 words]