**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 29th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Barbados**

**Statement by Australia**

Australia commends Barbados on its progress in promoting and protecting human rights, including its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). **Australia recommends Barbados pursue legislative action to implement its obligations under the CRPD.**

Australia is deeply concerned that LGBTI people continue to be subject to legislative and societal discrimination. **Australia recommends Barbados amend its criminal code to decriminalise consensual same-sex acts, and to take steps to implement legislative and public policy measures to protect the rights of LGBTI people.**

The perpetration of violence and abuse against women and children is of serious concern to Australia. **We recommend Barbados direct adequate resources to support agencies responsible for the prevention of and response to, violence against women and children, and accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.**

While acknowledging Barbados’s commitment to end courts use of the death penalty as a sentence, we are concerned at the delay in coming into force. **Australia recommends Barbados establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards complete abolition of this practice.**