**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 33rd Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Albania**

**Statement by Australia**

**6 May 2019**

Thank you, Madam Vice President

Australia commends the commitment of Albania to human rights and the progress made since its last review in 2014, including legislative and judicial reforms to address corruption.

However, challenges remain, including ensuring promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, people with disabilities and minorities.

Australia recommends that **Albania**:

1. **Take further steps to combat corruption in the judiciary, law-enforcement institutions and all branches of government.**
2. **Improve prison conditions, particularly overcrowding, and ensure adequate care for prisoners with disabilities and mental health concerns.**
3. **Step-up measures to reduce domestic and gender-based violence, including through awareness raising in Albanian society.**
4. **Take further concrete and effective action to eliminate discrimination faced by Roma, Egyptian and other minorities, and ensure access to services, education and employment.**

**130 Words**