

Annex to Australia’s National Report

Table of contents

- Implementation status of recommendations Australia ‘accepted’ in 2021 2
- Implementation status of recommendations Australia ‘noted and will consider further’ in 2021 143
- Recommendations Australia ‘noted’ or ‘noted but will not consider further at this time’ in 2021 156
- Implementation status of voluntary commitments Australia made in 2021 and Australia’s Human Rights 75 (HR75) pledge 162

Implementation status of recommendations Australia ‘accepted’ in 2021

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
36	Ratify the ILO Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (<i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Ratification of International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions is an important demonstration of our commitment to protecting and promoting the rules and norms consistent with Australia’s interests and values.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, Australia ratified three fundamental ILO instruments.</p> <p>On 31 March 2022, Australia ratified the ILO Protocol of 2014 to the <i>Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)</i>. The Protocol is the most contemporary international labour standard to address forced labour and modernises and supplements the <i>ILO Forced Labour Convention 1930 (No. 29)</i> which Australia ratified in 1932. The Protocol came into force for Australia on 31 March 2023.</p> <p>On 13 June 2023, Australia ratified the <i>ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)</i>. The Convention provides a framework setting out the minimum age for young people to start employment so they can work safely and without disruption to their schooling. The Convention came into force for Australia on 13 June 2024.</p> <p>On 29 October 2024, Australia ratified the <i>ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)</i>, completing Australia’s ratification of all 10 fundamental ILO Conventions. The Convention promotes continuous improvement of occupational safety and health to prevent occupational injuries, diseases and death through the development of a national policy, system and programme. The Convention will come into force for Australia on 29 October 2025.</p> <p>In addition to these fundamental ILO instruments, Australia ratified the <i>Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190)</i> on 9 June 2023. The Convention obliges member states that ratify to ensure their laws provide a framework prohibiting all forms of violence and harassment in the world of work, including gender-based violence. This ratification signals Australia’s commitment to safe and healthy working environments for all. The Convention came into force for Australia on 9 June 2024.</p>
42	Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (<i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia adopts an open, merit-based process when selecting a national candidate to stand for election to a United Nations treaty body for a first term. Subject to an assessment of their performance undertaken by the Australian Government policy lead with support from relevant Australian diplomatic posts, Australia will usually support candidates standing for a second term as a matter of course. For example: in 2020, Natasha Stott Despoja was selected as Australia’s candidate for the <i>Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women</i> through a rigorous national process that received 21</p>

¹ [A/HRC/47/8](#) paragraph 146 contains Australia’s third UPR recommendations. Recommendation numbers in this column are sub-paragraphs of paragraph 146. For example, recommendation 1 is found at [A/HRC/47/8](#) paragraph 146.1.

² [A/HRC/47/8/Add.1](#).

³ A number of recommendations are identified as being “implemented – ongoing”, reflecting Australia’s view that the recommendation expresses an aspiration that calls for ongoing governmental effort.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			expressions of interest. Australia confirmed support for her second term candidacy (during the reporting period) based on her strong performance in her first term on the Committee.
44–46	Strengthen the national human rights commission, including through the provision of adequate resources so that it can carry out its mission and meet its objectives within the framework of Sustainable Development Goal targets 1.4, 4.3 and 4.6 and Goal 5 /Ensure accountability for incidents of intimidation against the Australian Human Rights Commission (<i>Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Paraguay</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>The Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) is Australia's independent A-status National Human Rights Institution. Australian Government action to strengthen the AHRC includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An annual appropriation for general operations (\$32.1 million in 2024–25). • An additional funding boost of \$49.8 million over four years from 2022–23 (including \$9.1million ongoing funding from 2026–27 onwards) for the AHRC to continue its ongoing work as Australia's National Human Rights Institution, develop a National Anti-Racism Strategy and continue its anti-racism campaign, and implement Respect@Work recommendations to help individuals and organisations prevent and respond to workplace sexual harassment. • Amendments to the <i>Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986</i> (Cth), which require AHRC appointments be made by a merit based and publicly advertised selection process, consistent with the <i>Paris Principles</i>. • The development, in consultation with the AHRC, of the <i>Policy and Guidelines for Appointments to the Australian Human Rights Commission</i>, which provide further detail on AHRC appointment processes. • Supporting the AHRC to be re-accredited as an A-Status National Human Rights Institution by the United Nations Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, which occurred in November 2023.
48, 57	Ensure that Australia's international human rights obligations are enshrined in domestic law (<i>Canada, Zambia</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Section 51(xxix) of the <i>Australian Constitution</i> confers on the Parliament the power to legislate with respect to 'external affairs'. This includes implementing in domestic law a treaty which has been entered into pursuant to the executive power under section 61 of the Constitution.</p> <p>All treaty actions, including ratification, are approved by the Federal Executive Council and major treaty actions are subject to scrutiny by the Commonwealth Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT). This scrutiny process includes assessment of a National Interest Analysis of the treaty action by JSCOT, which includes content on how the treaty will be implemented domestically.</p> <p>Australia has a dualist legal system, which means that international treaties, including human rights instruments, are not self-executing and require domestic legislative implementation to have effect under Australian law. As a general principle, before Australia becomes bound by a treaty, the Australian Government satisfies itself that any legislation necessary to implement the treaty is in place.</p> <p>The general approach to human rights treaties taken in Australia is to ensure that domestic legislation, policies and practice comply with a treaty prior to its entry into force. Where required, Australian legal frameworks comply with and give effect to the obligations under the human rights instruments Australia is a party to.</p> <p>Under the <i>Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011</i> (Cth) all new Bills and disallowable legislative instruments introduced to the Australian Parliament must be accompanied by a Statement of Compatibility, which assesses the</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>compatibility of the legislation with the rights and freedoms recognised in the seven core international human rights treaties that Australia has ratified.</p> <p>Statements of Compatibility are reviewed by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights, within the Parliament of Australia. These human rights scrutiny processes are designed to encourage early and ongoing consideration of human rights issues in policy and legislative development. They also aim to improve parliamentary scrutiny of new laws for consistency with rights and freedoms in these treaties.</p> <p>Three jurisdictions, the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and Queensland, have enacted statutory human rights instruments which identify a number of basic rights and freedoms, based on the <i>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</i>. These statutory instruments require respective Executives to act and make decisions in a manner consistent with human rights, and the judiciary to interpret legislation in a manner consistent with human rights.</p>
50	Complete the incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic legislation and policy including a national plan for children (<i>Greece</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to furthering the rights of children and ensuring children in Australia can reach their full potential. Australian governments have devoted significant resources to policies and programs related to education, health (including mental health) and child safety.</p> <p>Australian governments have a comprehensive range of programs, policies and strategies aimed at promoting children and young people's rights. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> • <i>Commonwealth Child Safe Framework</i> • <i>Early Years Strategy 2024-2034</i> • <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Strategy</i> • <i>National Action Plan for the Health of Children and Young People 2020 2030</i> • <i>National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy</i> • <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> • <i>National Child and Family Investment Strategy</i> • <i>National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy</i> • <i>National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement</i> • <i>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-32</i> • <i>National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</i> • <i>National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse 2021–2030</i> • <i>Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021-2031</i> <p>On 13 January 2025, the Commonwealth established a National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People. The Commissioner's role is to protect and promote the rights, interests and wellbeing of First Nations children and young people.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>States and territories</p> <p>Each state and territory jurisdiction within Australia has a Children's Commissioner or advocate, who independently monitors, promotes and protects children's rights. South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) have specific Commissioners for First Nations children and young people and the Northern Territory Children's Commissioner must be an Aboriginal person unless no suitable Aboriginal candidate is identified. Children's Commissioners in Victoria and the ACT have functions in relation to Child Safety Standards in those jurisdictions.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48, 57, domestic implementation of international human rights obligations • 62, ending discrimination • 102, access to appropriate health care for all • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 230, education for all children • 234, child protection and access to early childhood services • 235, mental health services for children.
51, 255, 256, 259	Advance the necessary referendum pathway to reflect its commitment to recognizing indigenous Australians in the Constitution (<i>New Zealand</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>On 14 October 2023, Australians voted in a referendum about whether to change the Constitution to recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by establishing a body called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. The referendum was not carried.</p> <p>The Australian Government respects the decision of the Australian people and the democratic process that delivered it. The outcome of the vote does not affect work already underway across the Australian Government to create better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples or commitment to reconciliation.</p> <p>The Australian Government remains committed to listening and working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities to achieve better outcomes. The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> and other initiatives will continue to ensure practical progress in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' health, education, employment and housing.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 204, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history and the impact of colonisation in the education curricula • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
52	Ensure that the defence strategy fully complies with its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Arms Trade Treaty and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (<i>Panama</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government released the 2024 <i>National Defence Strategy</i> on 17 April 2024. The Strategy outlined that the Defence workforce is becoming more representative of wider society, and that diverse teams, including gender representation, builds workforce capability.</p> <p>Defence has implemented a number of policies and program initiatives to empower women across the Groups and Services in line with the National Defence Strategy. Defence's focus on gender equality and inclusion has been reinforced through cultural reform efforts, including most recently through <i>Pathway to Change: Evolving Defence Culture 2017-2022</i>, under the key priority of 'Capability through Inclusion'. Defence is committed to furthering gender equality and embedding a positive and inclusive culture across the enterprise. Ensuring greater participation of women in the workforce provides Defence with access to the best possible talent available. This diversity of voice, opinion and experience further enhances our capability.</p> <p>Current policies and program initiatives that empower women include initiatives focusing on Women in STEM including the SAGE Program and Women in STEM Decadal Plan. Our Gender, Peace and Security (GPS) directorate also implements policies and programs that aims to integrate a GPS perspective across the breadth and complexity of planning, operations and international engagement. Defence operationalises the priorities outlined in the <i>National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security 2021-2031</i>, through the <i>Defence Gender, Peace and Security Mandate (2020-2030)</i>. The mandate aligns Defence's actions with Australia's ambitious goals on gender equality, human rights and women and girls' meaningful participation in peace and security processes. It represents a consolidation of Defence activities and reflects a growing maturity in the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 Women, Peace and Security principles. Current GPS initiatives include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walumarra Business by Chern'ee Sutton • Gender Advisors and Gender Focal Point networks • International mobile training teams • Winning the Peace – Profiles of Australian Gender Advisors on Military Operations <p>Australia's Defence Strategy also ensures that Defence's conventionally armed nuclear-powered submarine acquisition will occur within the framework of Australia's safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency in a manner fully consistent with AUKUS partners' respective non-proliferation obligations and commitments.</p> <p>Australia maintains a robust domestic defence export controls legislative framework. Australia's domestic framework regulates the movement of Defence-related goods, technology and services both within and outside Australia. Australia implements its obligations under the <i>Arms Trade Treaty</i> through this existing framework.</p>
54	Strengthen actions in favour of the human rights of indigenous peoples and refugees (<i>El Salvador</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56, protection of cultural sites • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 122, end systemic police brutality against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 136–137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulement and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children right to education.
55	Redouble its efforts in providing the necessary care for older persons and persons with disabilities (<i>Libya</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to lay the foundations for longer-term reform of the health care system to better distribute the health and care workforce through strategic investments and development and implementation of comprehensive workforce strategies to alleviate increased pressures and demands on Australia's health and care workforce, particularly in regional, rural and remote settings.</p> <p>All Australian governments are committed to promoting the dignity, security and autonomy of older Australians and to strengthening their human rights protections. The new <i>Aged Care Act 2024</i> (Cth) places older people at the centre of the aged care system. The new Act establishes a new supporter framework, which reinforces older peoples' right to make decisions that affect their lives and supports their right to autonomy and self-determination.</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has invested more than \$3 billion to build a safe, inclusive and accessible Australia for people with disability. These investments relate to <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> (ADS), supports for people with disability, anti-discrimination, responding to violence against people with disability, and the criminal justice system.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 235, mental health services for children • 98–99, human rights of older persons • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 239, National Disability Strategy.
62	Continue to ensure the full implementation of domestic and international laws to end all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against race, culture and religion (<i>Ghana</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia has a comprehensive anti-discrimination framework at the federal, state and territory level that is subject to ongoing review and public debate. Protected attributes at the Commonwealth level include age, disability, sex, race, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status. States and territories have laws preventing discrimination on the basis of these attributes as well as others. A strong framework is also in place at the federal level for the prevention of hate speech and the urging of violence against groups, or members of a group, on the basis of race, religion, nationality, national or ethnic origin or political opinion.</p> <p>Australia's federal anti-discrimination laws are set out in the following legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Racial Discrimination Act 1975</i> (Cth) implements obligations under the <i>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination</i> and makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the basis of their race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, or immigrant status in all areas of public life. • The <i>Sex Discrimination Act 1984</i> (Cth) implements obligations under the <i>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</i> and makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the basis of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status, marital or relationship status, pregnancy or potential pregnancy, breastfeeding, or family responsibilities in key areas of public life. • The <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> (Cth) implements obligations under the <i>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i> and makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the basis of disability in key areas of public life. The Australian Government is currently undertaking a review of the Disability Discrimination Act. • The <i>Age Discrimination Act 2004</i> (Cth) makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the basis of age in key areas of public life. <p>Since 2021, amendments have been made to the <i>Sex Discrimination Act 1984</i> (Cth) and the <i>Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986</i> (Cth) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduce a positive duty on employers and persons conducting a business or undertaking to take reasonable and proportionate measures to eliminate sex discrimination, sexual and sex-based harassment, hostile work environments on the ground of sex, and certain acts of victimisation in the workplace context as far as possible, along with compliance and enforcement functions for the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expressly prohibit sex-based harassment and conduct that results in a workplace environment that is hostile on the ground of sex • apply the scope of sexual harassment protections to all forms of workers • provide the AHRC with a broad inquiry function in relation to systemic unlawful discrimination. <p>On 15 March 2023, the then Attorney-General referred Australia's 2010 Human Rights Framework and the National Human Rights Action Plan to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights (the Committee) for inquiry and report by 31 March 2024. The report was tabled in Parliament on 30 May 2024, and the Australian Government is giving careful consideration to its recommendations. As the Committee's recommendations have links to work across government, thorough consideration is required to ensure a holistic approach is taken to ensuring the rights and freedoms of all Australians are respected and protected.</p> <p>On 1 October 2024, the <i>Australian Human Rights Commission Amendment (Costs Protection) Act 2024</i> (Cth) came into force. This legislation alleviates the barrier to justice that the risk of an adverse costs order posed for applicants in federal unlawful discrimination court proceedings.</p> <p>The AHRC is Australia's National Human Rights Institution. Their role is to investigate and conciliate discrimination and human rights complaints under Australia's anti-discrimination legislation. In certain circumstances, if conciliation is unsuccessful, individuals may commence legal proceedings regarding the complaint in the Federal Court or the Federal Circuit and Family Court.</p> <p>The AHRC is currently comprised of a President and seven special-purpose Commissioners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights Commissioner • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner • Age Discrimination Commissioner • Disability Discrimination Commissioner • Race Discrimination Commissioner • Sex Discrimination Commissioner • National Children's Commissioner. <p>These Commissioners each contribute to the objectives of the AHRC, including by conducting public inquiries into human rights issues in Australia and promoting understanding around compliance with Australia's federal anti-discrimination laws.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p>All states and territories have anti-discrimination legislation and a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination. Although the functions of each body vary, functions include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising. Since Australia's third UPR, Australian states and territories are strengthening or are reviewing their respective anti-discrimination frameworks.</p>

		<p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>In 2023, the ACT amended the <i>Discrimination Act 1991</i> (ACT) to put the ACT at the forefront of best practice in promoting equal opportunity, respect for diversity and social inclusion by expanding coverage of the Act to introduce a positive duty or responsibility on Government (from 2025) and, organisations and businesses (from 2027) to eliminate discrimination, sexual harassment, and unlawful vilification. The reforms also expand the areas in public life where anti-discrimination laws apply and narrowed the exceptions in which discrimination is permissible especially in the context of employment.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1977</i> (NSW) makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the basis of race, sex, disability, age, homosexuality, transgender grounds, marital or domestic status and carer responsibilities in key areas of public life. Anti-Discrimination NSW can receive, investigate and conciliate complaints of discrimination, and refer matters to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal in certain circumstances. The NSW Law Reform Commission is currently conducting a comprehensive review of the Act.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1992</i> (NT) promotes recognition and acceptance within the community of the principle of the right to equality of opportunity of persons regardless of an attribute; to prevent and eliminate discrimination, sexual harassment and victimisation to the greatest extent possible; and to promote the identification and elimination of systemic discrimination. Amendments to the Act commenced in 2023 which added additional protected attributes and introduced a positive duty to eliminate that discrimination, sexual harassment or victimisation to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1991</i> (Qld) was amended in 2023 to include a new protected attribute and definition of ‘sex characteristics’, to update the definition of ‘gender identity’, and to repeal an exception which previously permitted discrimination in employment on the basis of ‘gender identity’ and ‘lawful sexual activity’ if the work involved the care of children. The Act was further amended in 2024, with protections against discrimination for sex workers by replacing the protected attribute of ‘lawful sexual activity’ with ‘sex work activity’.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA has a suite of anti-discrimination legislation to protect people living in SA, including: the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984</i> (SA) which aims to prevent discrimination against people and give them a fair chance to take part in economic and community life; the <i>Racial Vilification Act 1996</i> (SA) which makes it unlawful to vilify people because of their race by threatening to harm them or their property, or urging others to do so; the <i>Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018</i> (SA), which protects informants covered by the Act from civil or criminal liability for revealing public interest information; and the <i>Civil Liability Act 1936</i> (SA), which makes it a civil wrong to publicly incite hatred, severe ridicule, or serious contempt of a person or group based on their race.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i> (Vic) protects individuals from discrimination based on various personal characteristics including age, disability, employment activity, and gender identity, with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission promoting equality and providing dispute resolution services. In 2024, amendments were introduced to repeal the <i>Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001</i> (Vic) and transfer strengthened anti-vilification protections and offences to the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i> (Vic) and the <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> (Vic), respectively. Under the proposed amendments,</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>anti-vilification protections will be extended to cover disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, and personal association with a person who has a protected attribute.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA)</i> prohibits discrimination on a number of grounds, including race, sex, impairment, age, political and religious conviction, family responsibility, pregnancy, sexual orientation, and also sexual and racial harassment. A new Equal Opportunity Bill is being drafted, which broadly adopts the 163 recommendations of the 2023 Law Reform Commission of Western Australia's Final Report of its review of the Act. The Bill would enhance and modernise the Act, including by expanding the grounds upon which discrimination is prohibited. The Bill seeks to ensure all Western Australians are free from discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48, 57, domestic implementation of international human rights obligations • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds.
64, 65	Strengthen measures/invest additional efforts to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights by all its population without discrimination (<i>Nigeria/Serbia</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. All Australian jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48, 57, domestic implementation of international human rights obligations • 62, ending discrimination.
66	Continue ongoing efforts to combat discrimination against women, children and persons with disabilities (<i>Tunisia</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australia is committed to eliminating discrimination against women, children and people with disability.</p> <p>The Australian Government provided \$10.2 million over four years (from 2023–24) to establish a Central Coordination of Disability Policy function which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive engagement across both Commonwealth and state and territory governments to embed consideration of the needs of people with disability, (including women, girls and First Nations people with disability and consideration of intersectionality and diversity), in all government policies, programs, services and systems. • Lead the planned review of Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031, following release of the <i>Final Report from the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability</i>, including developing new or revised national targeted action plans.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the public commitment to the ongoing consultation and engagement with the disability community around matters that impact them in all aspects of community life. <p>The role of the special-purpose commissioners within the Australian Human Rights Commission (including the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, National Children's Commissioner and Disability Discrimination Commissioner) is to help promote understanding of and compliance with Commonwealth anti-discrimination law and undertake inquiries into human rights issues in Australia (among other things).</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 62, ending discrimination 243, 250, remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities in institutions or residences.
67	Create a mechanism to study, promote and combat the issues facing men and boys in Australian society, in order to advance towards gender equality in law and in practice (<i>Haiti</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>In March 2024, the Australian government released <i>Working for Women: A Strategy for Gender Equality (Working for Women)</i>. The 10-year strategy outlines the Australian Government's vision for gender equality — an Australia where people are safe, treated with respect, have choices, and have access to resources and equal outcomes no matter their gender. Working for Women will guide whole of government actions to achieve gender equality and help achieve our goal of being a world leader in gender equality.</p> <p>The Australian Government's ambition for gender equality means that men and women should be able to live free of gendered expectations and restrictions, for example with men being able to take on greater caring roles within their families.</p> <p>The Australian Government is expanding and modernising its Paid Parental Leave (PPL) Scheme to provide flexibility for families. On 1 July 2024, the PPL scheme expanded to 24 weeks, with three weeks reserved for each parent. By 2026, each parent will receive four weeks of reserved leave, with the remaining leave able to be shared however parents choose. Reserved leave sends a clear and positive message and an important 'signal' to employers about fathers' role in the care of children. On 1 July 2025, the superannuation guarantee was introduced for Government Funded Paid Parental Leave. The Australian Government has also established a Special Envoy for Men's Health to shine a spotlight on the unique health challenges facing Australian men and boys.</p>
68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97	Combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds including in the media and online (<i>Azerbaijan, Syrian Arab Republic, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Angola, Nicaragua, Cuba,</i>	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Australian governments condemn racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and have taken a multifaceted approach to address complex experiences of racism in the community.</p> <p>Racial discrimination, vilification and hate speech</p> <p>The <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth) (Fair Work Act) and the <i>Criminal Code 1995</i> (Cth) (Criminal Code) implement aspects of the <i>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination</i>. The Fair Work Act prohibits racial discrimination employment. The Criminal Code contains hate speech provisions, which criminalise advocating or threatening force, urging of</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	Indonesia, Nepal, Qatar, Tunisia, Bahrain, Pakistan)		<p>violence or property damage against groups or members of groups distinguished by race, religion, nationality, national or ethnic origin or political opinion.</p> <p>In December 2023, the Australian Government amended the Criminal Code to establish criminal offences for the public display of prohibited Nazi and terrorist organisation symbols, public performance of the Nazi salute and the trading of goods that bear a prohibited Nazi or terrorist organisation symbol. The maximum penalty for these offences is five years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum penalty of 12 months imprisonment.</p> <p>These symbols are widely recognised as representing hatred, violence and racism and are incompatible with Australia's multicultural and democratic society. The public display offence seeks to prevent the harassment and vilification of innocent Australians whose communities are targeted by neo-Nazi and terrorist organisation supporters in person and online. The trading offence targets commercial profiting, including selling, renting or leasing paraphernalia containing prohibited symbols. The Australian Government passed laws in February 2025 which expanded the groups protected under existing offences for publicly displaying prohibited symbols and giving the Nazi salute.</p> <p>In February 2025, the Australian Government amended the Criminal Code to strengthen and enhance Australia's laws to combat hate crime. The amendments criminalise the most serious kinds of hate speech involving threats or advocacy of force, violence or property damage against members of the Australian community who are distinguished by race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status, disability, nationality, national or ethnic origin and political opinion. The offences also apply to threats and advocacy of force, violence or property damage against close associates of members of these groups, defined as close family members and carers or assistants of people with disability. The legislation also expanded the groups protected under existing offences for publicly displaying prohibited symbols and giving the Nazi salute to include groups distinguished by sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status and disability.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p>All state and territory governments have legislated to prohibit racial discrimination and civil or criminal racial vilification provisions. The legislation complements a range of existing hate speech protections in Commonwealth, state and territory civil and criminal laws. Developments combatting vilification and hate speech in state and territory legislation, many of which carry terms of imprisonment as penalties, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New South Wales (NSW) prohibited religious vilification in 2023 and in 2025, the NSW Government introduced or strengthened criminal offences for: intentionally inciting racial hatred by a public act; intentionally blocking, impeding or hindering a person from, or harassing, intimidating or threatening a person accessing or leaving, a place of worship; publicly displaying Nazi symbols on or near a synagogue, a Jewish school or the Sydney Jewish Museum; and marking graffiti on a place of worship. • Western Australia criminalised the display of Nazi symbols and the performance of the Nazi salute. • Victoria strengthened anti-vilification laws and made legislative amendments to make the public display or performance of Nazi symbols or gestures, including the Hakenkreuz and Nazi salute, an offence in Victoria • In South Australia, legislation to prohibit public displays of the Nazi salute and Nazi symbols including the Nazi Hakenkreuz, and other symbols associated with Nazi ideology.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian Capital Territory introduced the offence of public display of Nazi symbols. • Tasmania (Tas) is amending the <i>Sentencing Act 1997</i> (Tas) to expand the types of prejudicial or hateful motivations that are captured as aggravating factors and make these aggravating factors easier to establish. • The Northern Territory amended anti-discrimination legislation to include offensive behaviour because of an attribute. • Queensland has prohibited the public distribution, display or publication of hate symbols, with the Nazi Hakenkreuz currently the only symbol prohibited, and increased the maximum penalty for the offence of serious racial, religious, sexuality or gender identity vilification. <p>Online safety</p> <p>Australia has civil and criminal penalties for conduct which constitutes online hate speech and cyber-racism. The <i>Racial Discrimination Act 1975</i> (Cth) prohibition of racial hatred includes acts done in a public place which extends to online racial hatred.</p> <p>It is an offence under the Criminal Code to use a carriage service, including the internet, to threaten, menace, harass or cause offence. This offence covers online conduct, such as sending emails or publishing material online, that a reasonable person would find to be threatening, menacing, harassing, or causing offence. This includes offensive material of a racial or religious nature. In 2021, the Australian Government increased the maximum penalty for this offence from three years' imprisonment to five years' imprisonment.</p> <p>In July 2021, the Australian Government passed the <i>Online Safety Act 2021</i> (Cth) to strengthen Australia's world-leading online safety framework. The Online Safety Act empowers the online safety regulator, the eSafety Commissioner, to keep Australians safe online. Under the Online Safety Act, the eSafety Commissioner administers reporting and takedown schemes which may capture online racism targeted at an individual. Additionally, through the Online Content Scheme the eSafety Commissioner can act where online material incites violence or promotes crime or terrorism, which may capture some forms of hate speech. The eSafety's Commissioner's functions also include providing online safety education and advice to Australians and supporting and conducting research about online safety for Australians.</p> <p>On 1 November 2024, the Australian Government welcomed the final report of the independent statutory review of the Online Safety Act and stated it will consider the extensive recommendations made in the report and respond in due course.</p> <p>On 13 November, the Australian Government announced it will legislate a digital duty of care, which will require the online industry to take reasonable steps to prevent foreseeable harms.</p> <p>Access to personal information, such as addresses or online profiles, can be used to target individuals of minority groups. In November 2024, the Australian Government passed <i>Privacy and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024</i> (Cth) which implements a first tranche of reform to give individuals more choice and control over their personal information, following a comprehensive review of Australia's <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Cth). Amongst other reforms, the new legislation introduced a statutory tort for serious invasions of privacy and two new offences to criminalise doxxing: the malicious exposure of an individual's personal data online.</p>

		<p>National Anti-Racism Strategy</p> <p>In 2022, the Australian Government provided \$7.5 million over four years to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) to develop a <i>National Anti-Racism Strategy</i> to tackle racism and promote racial equality in Australia.</p> <p>The Strategy included two streams of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a <i>National Anti-Racism Framework</i> to support the commitment of government, civil society, businesses and the community to tackle racism and promote racial equality. • An update of the Racism. It Stops with Me campaign to raise public awareness, deliver public education and build community capacity to combat racism and discriminatory attitudes. <p><u>National Anti-Racism Framework</u></p> <p>The <i>National Anti-Racism Framework</i>, which was released by AHRC in November 2024, made 63 recommendations directed to the Commonwealth, state and territory governments and the private sector, to combat structural racism experienced by First Nations people and other negatively racialised groups.</p> <p>The Australian Government is carefully considering the recommendations in the Framework.</p> <p><u>Racism. It Stops with Me</u></p> <p>Racism. It Stops with Me is a national campaign that provides tools and resources to help people and organisations learn about racism and take action to create change.</p> <p>Education and public awareness</p> <p>In 2024, in its ongoing efforts to tackle racism, the Australian Government committed \$2.5 million for the Race Discrimination Commissioner, Mr Giridharan Sivaraman, to lead the Racism@ at Uni: A National Study for Change. The study commenced in 2025 and engages with universities around Australia. The Commissioner will provide recommendations to the Australian Government aimed at reducing individual and systemic racism in Australian universities (including dual sector) to create safer, more respectful and inclusive learning environments for tertiary education students and staff.</p> <p>In November 2024, the Australian Government passed legislation to establish an independent National Student Ombudsman to handle complaints from higher education students about the actions of their higher education provider, including complaints relating to antisemitism or Islamophobia or other forms of racism on campus. The National Student Ombudsman commenced taking complaints on 1 February 2025.</p> <p>From 4 July 2024 to 19 February 2025, the Australian Parliament completed two comprehensive inquiries into antisemitism at Australian universities, led by the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee and the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights. These committees made a series of recommendations for countering and preventing antisemitism at higher education institutions. The Australian Government is currently considering the recommendations.</p> <p>On 9 July 2024, the Australian Government appointed Ms Jillian Segal AO as Australia’s Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and on 30 September 2024, appointed Mr Aftab Malik as Australia’s Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia. These Special Envoys engage with multicultural communities, religious discrimination experts and all levels of government on the most effective ways to combat Antisemitism and Islamophobia. On 10 July 2025, Ms Segal released the Plan to Combat Antisemitism. On 12 September 2025, Mr Malik released his report on a national response to combatting Islamophobia in Australia. The Australian Government is carefully considering the recommendations made in both the Plan and the report.</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			See also recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 83, multiculturalism and diversity in the country, racism among school children.
69	Give due attention to the issues of the rise in Islamophobia, racial discrimination and exploitation of migrant workers (<i>Sudan</i>);	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented - ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments condemn racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and have taken a multifaceted approach to address complex experiences of racism in the community. Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>On 9 July 2024, the Australian Government appointed Ms Jillian Segal AO as Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and on 30 September 2024, appointed Mr Aftab Malik as Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia. These Special Envoys engage with multicultural communities, religious discrimination experts and all levels of government on the most effective ways to combat Antisemitism and Islamophobia.</p> <p>On 10 July 2025, Ms Segal released the Plan to Combat Antisemitism. On 12 September 2025, Mr Malik released his report on a national response to combatting Islamophobia in Australia. The Australian Government is carefully considering the recommendations made in both the Plan and the report.</p> <p>Workplace protections</p> <p>The Australian Government introduced a range of measures that strengthen workplace protections, including reforms that reflect the increased risks of exploitation faced by migrant workers, including criminalising intentional wage theft and making it explicit that migrant workers are entitled to the workplace protections and entitlements under the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth) regardless of their migrant status.</p> <p>The Australian Government has implemented a package of reforms within the migration system that complement the broader range of reforms that have been progressed in Australia's national employment and workplace relations system. This package of reforms focusses on strengthening the legislative framework under the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (Cth) and the Australian Government's enforcement capabilities to address migrant worker exploitation and, addressing visa settings that may inadvertently discourage temporary migrants from reporting exploitation and resolving workplace issues in a timely manner.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, ratify the ILO Protocols • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
83	Continue efforts to promote and raise awareness of multiculturalism and diversity in the country, especially to eliminate racism among school children (<i>Myanmar</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented - ongoing</u></p> <p>Multiculturalism and diversity</p> <p>The Australian Government recognises the importance of equipping young Australians to live in a diverse world. This includes the development of skills young Australian need to address intolerance when they experience it or see it happening to others. Under the Australian Curriculum's General Capability, Intercultural Understanding, students learn to value their own cultures, languages and beliefs, and those of others.</p> <p>The Australian Government has committed \$17.1 million (over six years from 2020–2025) towards a suite of school focused social cohesion initiatives and is also committed to improving outcomes for First Nations children under <i>the National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i>.</p> <p><u>Multicultural reports</u></p> <p>In 2023, the Australian Government commissioned an independent panel (Review Panel) to assess and make recommendations on the institutional arrangements, legislative and policy settings required to advance a multicultural Australia. The Australian Government released the <i>Multicultural Framework Review Report Towards Fairness: A Multicultural Australia for all</i> (MFR Report) on 24 July 2024. This is a comprehensive and compelling report, the first major examination of the state of Australian multiculturalism in half a century.</p> <p>The Australian Government response to the MFR Report, released on the same day as the MFR Report, is an acknowledgement of the Review Panel's efforts and the expansiveness of the MFR Report. The Australian Government is committed to the three core principles of the MFR Report: connection; identity and belonging; and inclusion.</p> <p>The Australian Government is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drawing from and embedding the key features of the MFR Report across all federal agencies and activities • leveraging the features of the MFR Report to help ensure policy settings and institutional arrangements are fit-for-purpose to harness the talents of all Australians. <p>The Australian Government has also committed more than \$100 million (over four years from 2024–25 and \$0.5 million per year ongoing from 2028–29) to complement the release of the MFR Report and the Australian Government Response. This commitment addresses key priorities such as sustaining the Community Liaison Officer Network, translation services, and in-language website content, commissioning a <i>Multiculturalism in Focus Research Report</i> from the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute, as well as grants to flow directly to multicultural communities.</p> <p>As part of the Australian Government's support for culturally and linguistically diverse communities, the <i>Multicultural Access and Equity: Australian Government Services Report 2017–22</i> was tabled in Parliament on 8 August 2024. The report details federal government departments and agencies' performance against the six Multicultural Access and Equity Policy commitments designed to ensure their programs and services deliver equitable outcomes and meet the needs of all Australians, regardless of their cultural and linguistic backgrounds.</p>

		<p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>In the ACT, the Children and Young People Commissioner has released a report on children and young people’s experiences of racism in the ACT, has released a child friendly publication on addressing racism, and has created a range of information on anti-racism.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW Government is committed to upholding the Multicultural Principles, as set out under the <i>Multicultural NSW Act 2000</i> (NSW) which recognises the value of diversity. Following the 2024 Review of the Multicultural Policies and Services Program (which supports agencies to observe the Multicultural Principles), the NSW Government is implementing a refreshed framework that will promote and strengthen the awareness of multiculturalism across government.</p> <p>The NSW Government is committed to ensuring that all students, staff, families and school communities from all cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds feel safe, supported and valued in NSW public schools. For example, to tackle religious bullying and intolerance, the NSW Government established a helpline, conducted additional consultation with faith organisations, and is strengthening multi-faith inclusion in professional learning and curriculum resources.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT’s <i>Multicultural Policy for 2020–2025</i> outlines objectives and actions to strengthen multiculturalism with key actions including the provision of funding for schools and communities to hold a range of events and initiatives (e.g. language classes, cultural festivals, youth empowerment) to enable the understanding and respect of other cultures.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland is committed to providing an inclusive and equitable education for every student and to fulfilling obligations under the <i>Multicultural Recognition Act 2016</i> (Qld), <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i> (Qld) and the <i>Multicultural Action Plan 2024–25 to 2026–27</i> and its Inclusive Education Policy outlines a commitment that children and young people across Queensland, from all social, cultural, community and family backgrounds, and of all identities and all abilities will be able to learn in a safe and supportive environment.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA has refreshed its Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum, which is a mandated child safety and respectful relationships curriculum in all SA department schools and preschools, addressing concepts such as rights and responsibilities, identity, power, gender equality, bullying, harassment and discrimination in the context of child safety and respectful relationships.</p> <p><u>Tasmania</u></p> <p>Tasmania has implemented a <i>Racial Inclusive Education Initiative</i> to ensure there is systemic leadership to drive racial inclusion initiatives across schools and agency and established a dedicated English as an Additional Language (EAL) Service that promotes inclusive learning practices, provides resources, advice, support and professional development for students and schools.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2024, the Victorian Government launched a whole-of-government anti-racism strategy to stop racism and discrimination in Victoria, which includes anti-racism strategies and guides to support school students and teaching staff.</p>
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Multicultural Policy Framework, which was launched in 2020, translates the principles and objectives of the <i>Western Australian Charter of Multiculturalism</i> into action. WA's Countering Racism in Schools is a whole-of-school approach to planning, implementing and evaluating strategies to combat racism and support schools.</p>
88, 89	Implement all measures to eliminate systematic discrimination against Aboriginals and their communities and combat violence against them (<i>China, France</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented - ongoing</u></p> <p>All jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p>Australian governments condemn racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and have taken a multifaceted approach to address complex experiences of racism in the community, including against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds.
90	Continue its work to address the ongoing reports of entrenched inequalities and overrepresentation across all low socioeconomic indicators that disproportionately affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, especially in the areas of health and well-being, education and justice (<i>New Zealand</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>All jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p>Australian governments condemn racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and have taken a multifaceted approach to address complex experiences of racism in the community, including against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 136–137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
92	Continue to address inequalities faced by minorities (<i>Malaysia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. The Australian Government believes all people are entitled to respect, equality, dignity and is committed to ensuring its human rights framework protect human rights.</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to reducing poverty and disadvantage and protecting people who may be in vulnerable situations. The Productivity Commission report, <i>Rising Inequality? A stocktake of the evidence</i>, released in August 2018, noted that a range of indicators can be used to assess poverty and disadvantage, and this approach facilitates a more holistic picture of the incidence and extent of poverty from a range of perspectives that cannot be encapsulated in a single statistic.</p> <p>The Australian Government's <i>Measuring What Matters Statement</i>, released in July 2023, is Australia's first national wellbeing framework which helps inform what matters most to Australians with the objective of building a healthy, secure, sustainable, cohesive and prosperous future for everyone, It draws on data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics General Social Survey, which indicated that in 2020, 19 per cent of households were unable to raise \$2,000 within a week for something important and 21 per cent had experienced a cash flow problem in the previous 12 months.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56, protection of cultural sites • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 136–137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
98, 99	Addressing age discrimination and promote the human	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>All Australian governments are committed to promoting the dignity, security and autonomy of older Australians and to strengthening their human rights protections.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	rights of older persons (<i>Israel, Argentina</i>)		<p>Supporting older Australians in their homes</p> <p>The Australian Government is implementing Support at Home in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. From 1 November 2025, Support at Home will replace the existing Home Care Packages Program and Short-Term Restorative Care Program. The new program also directly addresses Principle 1 of the Aged Care Taskforce: the aged care system should support older people to live at home for as long as they wish and can do so safely. Support at Home will provide the choice that growing numbers of older people are making to retain their independence and remain in their homes as they age, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clinical care • independent living support • more tailored funding • support for home modifications • fast access to assistive technology • expanded access to restorative support • access to additional services in the last 3 months of life so they can remain at home if that is their preference. <p>Around 1.4 million older people will benefit from a new Support at Home program, which prioritises supported and independent ageing. This roughly equates to support for 300,000 more participants by 2034–35, noting the Australian Government has funded approximately an extra 107,000 places across the Home Care Package and Support at Home programs in 2024–25 and 2025–26. Support at home will also create shorter average wait times from assessment to receive support with a target of three months from July 2027.</p> <p>Aged care</p> <p>The <i>Final Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety</i> (Aged Care Royal Commission) was tabled in Parliament in March 2021, setting out 148 recommendations. The Australian Government responded by committing additional funding for aged care and amending the <i>Aged Care Act 1997</i>.</p> <p>The new <i>Aged Care Act 2024</i> (Cth) (new Aged Care Act) ensures older people are at the centre of the aged care system and will replace existing legislation, including the <i>Aged Care Act 1997</i> (Cth) and <i>Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018</i> (Cth). It provides the foundations of a new aged care system where there is no place for substandard care, and high-quality care becomes the norm. It also helps deliver the Australian Government’s response to 58 recommendations from the Age Care Royal Commission.</p> <p>In response to Age Care Royal Commission recommendations, the Australian Government introduced a new aged care classification system and funding model resulting in average residential care funding increasing from \$85,000 per resident per year to over \$118,000 per resident per year.</p> <p>The Aged Care Royal Commission found that staffing levels are vital to the quality of care for older people living in residential aged care homes. In response the Australian government has implemented mandatory care minutes requirements, funding for increased care minutes and the requirement that providers have a registered nurse on-site and on duty at all times.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Elder abuse</p> <p>All Australian governments are committed to promoting the dignity, security and autonomy of older Australians. This includes preventing the abuse and mistreatment of older people in all its forms — whether it be physical, psychological, sexual, financial, or another form of mistreatment or neglect. It also includes taking positive steps to promote the rights of older people.</p> <p><u>Abuse in aged care settings</u></p> <p>In response to Aged Care Royal Commission recommendations and recommendations in the Australian Law Reform Commission report <i>Elder Abuse: A National Legal Response</i>, the Australian Government implemented the Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS). The scheme aims to reduce and prevent the neglect and abuse of older Australians receiving aged care services subsidised by government.</p> <p>In 2021, SIRS was implemented in residential aged care and was extended to in-home and community aged care in 2022. SIRS drives quality and safety improvements in aged care by requiring aged care providers to manage incidents and ensure measures are put in place to prevent similar incidents reoccurring. Aged Care providers are legislatively required to have an effective internal incident management system, including identifying, recording, managing, resolving and reporting serious incidents.</p> <p><u>National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People</u></p> <p>Australia is developing the second <i>National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2025–2035</i> (second National Plan), informed by the Australian Institute of Family Studies' evaluation of the first plan and the findings of a national consultation process.</p> <p>The second National Plan will consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A human right focus and a cross-portfolio approach to addressing underlying issues. • An ambitious vision framed in terms of ending (rather than responding to) elder abuse. • A clear commitment to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Plan and report publicly on implementation milestones. <p>A consultation draft of the second National Plan was released for feedback between December 2024 to February 2025 and will be launched pending final government approvals.</p> <p>In 2021, funding was allocated to three specialist elder abuse services including specialist elder abuse units, health-justice partnerships and case management and mediation services.</p> <p>In 2021–2022 the Department of Health and Aged Care funded the Elder Abuse Prevention Project, which included an educative online learning module to help identify and prevent elder abuse for health and aged care professionals and a partnership with non-government organisations which aimed to prevent sexual assault in residential aged care homes.</p>

		<p><u>Public awareness</u></p> <p>The Australian Government national awareness campaign Ending the Abuse of Older People Begins with a Conversation ran from 28 July–2 November 2024. The campaign aimed to encourage conversations within the community about elder abuse and to increase awareness that there is help and support available. This includes both informal support through friends, family and the broader community, and more formal support through services.</p> <p>Decision-making</p> <p><u>Enduring Powers of Attorney Reform</u></p> <p>The Standing Council of Attorneys-General (SCAG), which comprises the Commonwealth, State and Territory Attorneys-General, agreed in September 2023 to work towards achieving greater consistency in state and territory enduring powers of attorney (EPOA) laws, which included releasing a detailed consultation paper with potential approaches that could be adopted in future laws, implementation considerations and questions for sector and community feedback. SCAG is continuing to actively consider opportunities to achieve greater national consistency in EPOA laws and is progressing work towards finalising the second National Plan.</p> <p><u>Age Care Act</u></p> <p>The new Aged Care Act introduced a supporter framework that will help embed supported decision-making across the aged care system. All registered supporters have duties under the Act they must comply with. These duties are intended to protect an older person’s autonomy, safety, rights and will and preferences. Supporters under the new Aged Care Act are not able to make decisions on behalf of the individual — their role is instead centred on supporting the individual to make their own decisions. The framework under the new Aged Care Act incorporates people who are already appointed as decision-makers for older people, such as guardians and Enduring Powers of Attorney. Authority to make decisions on behalf of an individual remain a matter for state and territory legislative regimes.</p> <p>Participation of older persons</p> <p>The Age Discrimination Commissioner and the Australian Human Rights Commission have undertaken several projects to promote the benefits of multigenerational workforces, including developing a training module for managers on the rights of older workers, and collaborating with the Australian HR Institute to support research over multiple years to explore employer attitudes and organisations’ strategies to recruit and retain older workers over multiple years.</p> <p>The Australian Government has increased support for older job seekers by extending eligibility for the higher single JobSeeker Payment rate for recipients aged 60 years and over to recipients aged 55 and over who have been on payment for nine or more continuous months (2023–24 Budget).</p> <p>Rights of older persons</p> <p>Australia co-sponsored a resolution of the rights of older persons at the 58th session of the Human Rights Council, which was adopted without vote on 3 April 2025. The resolution would establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of elaborating and submitting to the Human Rights Council a draft international legally binding instrument on the human rights of older persons with the objective of promoting, protecting, and ensuring the full enjoyment of human rights by older persons.</p> <p>See also recommendation 62, ending discrimination.</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
102	Ensure free and timely access to appropriate health care for all, including LGBTI+ persons, children and adolescents where the young person has sufficient maturity to provide informed consent (<i>Iceland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>All Australians have access to a wide range of health and hospital services at low or no cost through Medicare. Medicare helps Australians with the costs of the health care they need, regardless of where they live or their ability to pay. When a young person is 15 years old, they can get their own Medicare card.</p> <p>The 10-year <i>National Action Plan for the Health and Wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ People</i>, released in December 2024, sets out an ambitious plan to improve the care and support LGBTIQ+ people receive and deliver better physical and mental health outcomes across the community. The release of the Action Plan was accompanied by a \$15.5 million investment to start systemwide improvements to give LGBTIQ+ people access to safe, appropriate and stigma-free health and wellbeing care.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p>In Australia, the provision of gender services is led by states and territories, who are responsible for the relevant services. Specialist gender services across a number of jurisdictions provide care to young people based on a multidisciplinary approach tailored to individual circumstances and needs. Decisions regarding clinical care are shared between the clinicians, the young person and their family. If there is a disagreement about the diagnosis, treatment or capacity of the minor to provide informed consent, the family court has ruled this requires an application to the court to resolve the dispute consistent with the child's best interests.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government is implementing a broad range of activities aimed at improving safety and inclusivity of health services for LGBTIQ+ communities. The ACT Government has established Paediatric and Adult Gender Services to provide safe and inclusive gender affirming health care.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW <i>LGBTIQ+ Health Strategy</i> provides direction to the NSW Health System to support all people who are LGBTIQ+ to achieve optimal health and wellbeing. It also guides partnership work across primary, secondary and tertiary care. NSW Health has established the statewide specialist Trans and Gender Diverse Health Service for young people up to the age of 25 years. The service provides gender affirming health care that is evidence-based, multidisciplinary and age appropriate for transgender and gender diverse young people.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In the NT, the provision of gendered services is guided by the <i>Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025</i>, which seeks to increase the number of health and wellbeing programs and policies that respond to gender inequities and increase the provision of safe services to gender-diverse Territorians.</p> <p>In 2023 and 2024, the NT Government partnered with the NT AIDS and Hepatitis Council to deliver Silver Rainbow Training in Darwin and Alice Springs. Silver Rainbow Training is designed to improve the experiences of LGBTIQ+ people as they age and enter the Australian aged care system.</p> <p>The NT Government provides a specialised adolescent gender clinic for young people up to 18 years of age should they want to discuss medical gender affirming care.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, the Queensland Children’s Gender Service provides specialist care for trans and gender diverse children and young people, and their families. This state-wide service aims to improve the health, wellbeing and function of children diverse in gender identity through affirmative, family focused, multidisciplinary assessment and specialist treatment.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA’s State-wide Gender Diversity Model of Care outlines how gender health services for people who are trans, gender diverse, non-binary or gender questioning will be delivered. It includes appropriate processes for assessment of capacity and provision of informed consent for young people.</p> <p><u>Tasmania</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government is implementing actions to ensure that sex, gender and sexual orientation diversity are consistently recognised across the Department. Tasmania’s <i>LGBTIQA+ Action Plan 2024-2027</i> outlines an ongoing commitment to support inclusion and diversity within health services and will support the delivery of inclusive practice training for healthcare workers, specialised clinical education, improving access to gender affirming care and tackling the drivers of health inequities such as stigma and discrimination.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, the <i>LGBTI Health Strategy 2019 -2024</i> sets out clear priorities and outcomes for the WA health system on policy development and service delivery to achieve optimal health and wellbeing outcomes for all LGBTI people. The <i>WA Youth Action Plan 2024–2027 Koorlangka Bidi</i> includes actions that aim to make the health system safer and more accessible for young LGBTIQA+ people.</p> <p>The WA Government is currently supporting the drafting of new Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) legislation which will remove provisions in the existing legislation preventing access to ART or surrogacy on the basis of sex, relationship status, gender identity, intersex status or sexual orientation and will include gender-inclusive language.</p>
103	Continue to work on ending discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, including through the launching of awareness raising campaigns and training of public officials (<i>Israel</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>All Australian governments believe that people are entitled to respect, dignity and the opportunity to participate in society and receive the protection of the law regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity and have taken action on matters related to health and wellbeing, and anti-discrimination.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p>States and territories have a number of policies in addition to those mentioned above including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Capital Territory Policing has one dedicated Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer within the Community Engagement Team to build trust and collaboration between the LGBTIQA+ community and police and encourage police and community cohesion to understand matters affecting the community, and learn how to best support them. • In New South Wales (NSW), the <i>Conversion Practices Ban Act 2024</i> (NSW) commenced on 4 April 2025 banning practices directed to changing or suppressing the sexual orientation or gender identity of individuals. The Act creates a civil

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>complaints scheme, administered by Anti-Discrimination NSW, as well as criminal offences for delivering or performing conversion practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Queensland (Qld), the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1991</i> (Qld) was amended to include a new protected attribute and definition of 'sex characteristics', to update the definition of 'gender identity', and to repeal an exception which previously permitted discrimination in employment on the basis of 'gender identity' and 'lawful sexual activity' if the work involved the care of children. • In 2022, Victoria launched its first whole-of-government LGBTIQ+ strategy, <i>Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ strategy 2022–32</i>, and the Victorian Government has invested over \$35 million into initiatives that support LGBTIQ+ communities. The Victorian Pride Centre, Australia's first purpose-built LGBTIQ+ Community Hub, opened in 2021. A second hub for trans and gender diverse Victorians, the Affirmation Station, was opened in 2023. • The Western Australia (WA) Government is working to develop the State's first whole-of-government <i>LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy</i> to promote the well-being and full social and economic participation of all LGBTIQ+ people in WA to foster long-term change. <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 102, access to appropriate health care for all.
105	Continue to improve education and health outcomes for people with unique vulnerabilities (<i>Viet Nam</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to lay the foundations for longer-term reform of the health care system to better distribute the health and care workforce through strategic investments and development and implementation of comprehensive workforce strategies to alleviate increased pressures and demands on Australia's health and care workforce, particularly in regional, rural and remote settings.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 102, access to appropriate health care for all • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 203, health services in the rural and remote areas • 230, education for children • 239, National Disability Strategy • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
106	Continue to reinforce relevant measures to ensure the protection of vulnerable members of the population, including women and girls with disabilities and the indigenous population (Ghana)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. The Australian Government believes all people are entitled to respect, equality, dignity and is committed to ensuring its human rights framework protect human rights.</p> <p>Australia is committed to gender equality and putting gender equality at the heart of policy and decision-making. Australian governments have taken significant steps to achieving gender equality with a focus on ending gender-based violence, valuing unpaid and paid care, increasing economic equality and security, and increasing leadership, representation and decision-making.</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has invested more than \$3 billion to build a safe, inclusive and accessible Australia for people with disability. These investments relate to Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (ADS), supports for people with disability, anti-discrimination, responding to violence against people with disability, and the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 205, 206, awareness raising and education on human rights for law enforcement officers, migration officials and those working in the justice sector • 207, human rights training in the public sector • 209, discrimination against women and girls • 239, Australia's Disability Strategy • 242, access to justice for persons with disabilities • 243, 250, remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities in institutions or residences • 245, 246, 248, involuntary treatments, forced sterilizations and unjustified medical procedures against persons with disabilities • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 251, violence against persons with disabilities • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 281, protect indigenous women and children from family, domestic and sexual violence.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
107	Give attention to the implementation of national policies for marginalized or vulnerable social groups, including migrant children, Aboriginals and persons with disabilities (<i>Nicaragua</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. The Australian Government believes all people are entitled to respect, equality, dignity and is committed to ensuring its human rights framework protect human rights.</p> <p>Australia is committed to furthering the rights of children, including migrant children, and ensuring children in Australia can reach their full potential. Australian governments have devoted significant resources to policies and programs related to education, health (including mental health) and child safety.</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has invested more than \$3 billion to build a safe, inclusive and accessible Australia for people with disability. These investments relate to Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (ADS), supports for people with disability, anti-discrimination, responding to violence against people with disability, and the criminal justice system.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 69, Give due attention to the issues of the rise in Islamophobia, racial discrimination and exploitation of migrant workers • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 205, 206, awareness raising and education on human rights for law enforcement officers, migration officials and those working in the justice sector • 207, human rights training in the public sector • 239, Australia's Disability Strategy • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
114–118	Respond to the impact of climate change and disasters, including on human rights and ensure meaningful participation of diverse and impacted groups. (<i>Botswana, Fiji, France, Haiti Marshall Islands</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Responding to climate change</p> <p>Australia is party to the <i>Paris Agreement</i> and is taking the practical actions needed to reduce emissions. In 2022, the Australian Government legislated emission reduction targets of 43 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050.</p> <p>In 2022, as part of Australia's Nationally Determined Contribution to the <i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</i> (UNFCCC), the Australian Government passed the <i>Climate Change Act 2022</i> (Cth). Currently Australia is one of 33 parties to the UNFCCC that have legislated a net zero target. This includes 32 individual nations plus 14 nations as part of the EU legislation. The Climate Change Act outlines Australia's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of a 43 per cent reduction from 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Australian Government is currently developing Australia's <i>Net Zero Plan</i> which will set out the key actions Australia needs to take over the next 25 years to decarbonise its economy. It will cover all major parts of the economy and will be consistent with our international and domestic commitments.</p> <p>Alongside the <i>Net Zero Plan</i>, the Australian Government will set an ambitious and achievable 2035 emissions reduction target. This will mean Australia is accelerating climate action, consistent with our global peers.</p> <p>Six sectoral emissions reduction plans will support the <i>Net Zero Plan</i>. This will enable the Plan to capture the full breadth of the economy.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Legislative Assembly passed legislation to include a right to a healthy environment in the <i>Human Rights Act 2004 (ACT)</i> which responds to the General Assembly Resolution of 2022 (A/RES/76/300) and as such requires that climate change risks be considered in new legislation or government decision-making.</p> <p>The ACT Government is advancing climate action with legislated net zero emissions targets by 2045, with significant progress already made, including nearly achieving the 2025 target of reducing emissions by 50–60 per cent from 1990 levels and the ACT Legislative Assembly has included a right to a healthy environment in the <i>Human Rights Act 2004 (ACT)</i> to require that climate change risks be considered in new legislation or government decision-making.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>NSW legislated guiding principles for action on climate change and its target to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 including interim targets to reduce emissions by 50 per cent by 2030 and 70 per cent by 2035 (from a 2005 baseline). The <i>NSW 1 Net Zero Plan Stage 1:2020–2030</i> provides a roadmap for economy wide emissions reductions across industry, infrastructure, energy, transport, waste, finance, agriculture and land sectors.</p> <p>NSW has established an independent Net Zero Commission to monitor, review and report on progress toward the state's legislated targets, and the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap to coordinate investment in new transmission, generation, storage and firming infrastructure to ensure NSW has an electricity system that provides affordable, clean and reliable energy for everyone.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is focused on delivering an affordable, reliable, and secure energy system that meets the needs of families, businesses, and industry now and into the future.</p> <p>Key measures in the NT include investment in energy infrastructure to address forecasted energy supply shortfalls; supporting households and businesses to invest in small-scale solar and battery storage; and the expansion of large-scale solar and battery storage to reduce the cost of supply whilst maintaining grid stability.</p>

		<p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland is committed to an emissions reduction target of net zero emissions by 2050, as legislated in the <i>Clean Economy Jobs Act 2024</i> (Qld).</p> <p>The Queensland Government will develop an overarching net zero roadmap that outlines the overall vision and priorities to achieve net zero by 2050. This will also set out adaptation priorities to ensure industries and communities are resilient. The roadmap will be released by the end of 2025.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The SA Government is reviewing and amending the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007</i> (SA) with the aim of updating greenhouse gas emission targets and strengthening climate action.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government legislated an emissions reduction target for Tasmania of net zero emissions, or lower, from 2030, which was achieved for the first time in 2014 and maintained until 2022 (latest data). The Tasmanian Government has a renewable energy target of 200 per cent renewable electricity by 2040 (on 2020 demand level). Tasmania's <i>Climate Change Action Plan 2023–25</i> and its <i>Implementation Plan</i> currently outlines the Government's plan for action on climate change, in which a range of programs have been delivered in recent years.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government has brought forward its net zero emissions target from 2050 to 2045, with interim targets to reduce emissions by 28–33 per cent below 2005 levels by 2025, 45–50 per cent by 2030, and 75–80 per cent by 2035. Victoria's <i>Climate Action Act 2017</i> (Vic) has been amended to legislate these targets.</p> <p>The role of renewables</p> <p>The Australian Government has developed and continues to develop a number of initiatives to meet our net zero targets including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Capacity Investment Scheme which supports Australia's target of having 82 per cent of electricity delivered by renewable generation by 2030. The Scheme incentivises renewable electricity through a guaranteed national tender. • The Safeguard Mechanism, which sets emissions limits for more than 200 of Australia's highest emitting facilities across the mining, manufacturing, transport, oil, gas and waste sectors. • The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard which incentivises the development and supply of more fuel efficient and low or zero emissions cars to the Australian market. • The <i>Critical Minerals Strategy 2023–2030</i> sets out the Australian Government's vision to grow Australia's critical minerals sector to extract and refine minerals critical to renewable energy production. • The <i>Future Gas Strategy</i> to plan for how gas can support the energy transition to net zero by 2050 and beyond. • The National Reconstruction Fund to finance up to \$3 billion of renewables and low emission technologies. • The National Battery Strategy and the Powering Australia Industry Growth Centre to grow battery design and building capacity. • The <i>Net Zero Industrial Sector Plan</i> will support Australia's major emitters to decarbonise, including the steel and aluminium industries which contribute critical inputs for renewable energy production.
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The \$1 billion Green Iron Investment Fund, \$2 billion Green Aluminium Production Credit and \$1.5 billion allocation under the Future Made in Australia Innovation Fund to support emission reduction of Australia and our region including \$750 million for green metals, \$500 million for clean energy technology manufacturing, and \$250 million for low-carbon liquid fuels. <p>Consultation and building resilience</p> <p>The <i>National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy 2021–2025</i> positions Australia to better anticipate, manage and adapt our changing climate. The Strategy sets out what the Australian Government will do to support efforts across all levels of government, businesses and the community, to better anticipate, manager and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Strategy recognises that adaptation is a shared responsibility that requires sustained and ongoing action.</p> <p>To enable more effective adaptation across Australia the Strategy contains three objectives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> drive investment and action through collaboration improve climate information services assess progress and improve over time. <p>The strategy is underpinned and guided by the principle to support those who are vulnerable to climate-related impacts. The <i>Second National Action Plan to implement the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework</i> recognises everyone has a role in ensuring Australia has an inclusive and enabling system which authorises and empowers action. The action plan's 24 actions are designed to provide a pathway for all sectors of society to actively participate in reducing our risk and achieve Australia's 2030 disaster risk reduction goals.</p> <p>The <i>Emergency Management Targeted Action Plan</i> under <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> (ADS), focused on making real progress on improving the outcomes of people with disability affected by national emergencies. The ADS has 58 actions across the Australian Government and state and territory governments.</p> <p>In November 2024, Australian emergency management ministers endorsed the Disability Inclusive Emergency Management (DIEM) Toolkit to provide practical guidance for nationally consistent disability inclusive emergency planning across all levels of government in Australia. The DIEM Toolkit is built around 7 principles to improve safety and wellbeing outcomes for people with disability before, during and after emergencies.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The right to a healthy environment in the <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT) specifies that the community should be consulted in policymaking processes on environmental issues, and that it should be interpreted in conjunction with the cultural rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The ACT Government Implements a suite of policies and programs to build the resilience of vulnerable groups against the impacts of climate change. This work includes the introduction of <i>Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards</i> for rental properties,</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>as well as the actions outlined in the <i>Climate Change Strategy 2019–2025</i> and <i>Canberra's Living Infrastructure Plan: Cooling the City</i>.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>Foundational to the NSW planning system is full and meaningful public participation, including mandated consultation requirements before planning decisions for State significant projects are made. Opportunities to continuously improve participation, particularly early in the planning process, continue to be explored and implemented.</p> <p>The NSW Environment Protection Authority, through its <i>Climate Change Action Plan</i>, is helping licensees understand climate risk and develop environmental resilience programs and initiatives to enhance preparedness for natural disaster events. In 2024, the NSW Local Emergency <i>Management Planning Guidelines</i> were updated and require Local Emergency Management Committees to adopt inclusive emergency management planning and practices, including involving people with disability, their representatives and their advocates as key community service partners in the emergency planning process.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In the <i>Environment Protection Act 2019</i> (NT) requires the impacts of a changing climate to be considered when assessing the environmental impacts of projects with potential to have a significant impact. The Act requires consultation during the environmental impact process, and the NT Environment Protection Authority has systems and processes in place to consult with key stakeholders.</p> <p>The NT Fire and Emergency Service (NTFES) committed to a resilient, informed community prepared for all hazards. NTFES supports disaster resilience and risk reduction through comprehensive prevention, preparedness and effective response strategies, and delivers community education and awareness programs to empower individuals with the knowledge and tools to respond to emergencies effectively.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Clean Economy Jobs Act 2024 (Qld)</i> (the Act) requires the responsible Minister to consider the views of community stakeholders, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and industry, when deciding each interim emissions reduction target. The Act also requires stakeholder engagement in developing sector emissions reduction plans.</p> <p>The <i>Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy 2017–2030</i> provides a framework for climate resilience and climate risk management in Queensland. The Queensland Government has also worked in partnership with relevant First Nations people to develop 2 climate adaptation plans for the K'gari (Fraser Island) and Gondwana Rainforests of Australia (Qld Section) World Heritage properties to support stronger on-ground management.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania has a legislative requirement of consultative partnership approach with relevant business, industry, scientific, environmental and community bodies, children and young people, local government, relevant unions, the peak body representing trade unions and the Tasmanian community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Disaster and emergency planning and response and comprehensive consultation processes have been progressed with a focus on vulnerable sectors of population, particularly people with disability. Disability Inclusion and Safeguarding legislation is being progressed and has a focus on increasing requirements for all government entities to have in place frameworks to consult with people with disability.</p> <p>In 2024, the Tasmanian Government released a Risk Assessment for Climate Change and its response, <i>Managing Tasmania's climate risks and opportunities</i>, setting out a range of climate adaptation actions to build resilience and capitalise on transition opportunities.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2022, the Victorian Government released the <i>Victorian Government Climate-related Risk Disclosure Statement</i>, outlining Victoria's approach to climate risks and opportunities marking the first time in Australia that a government has made a climate-related disclosure in line with international practice.</p> <p>Victoria's 10-year <i>Bushfire Management Strategy</i> was released in 2024, which sets out strategic outcomes related to Aboriginal self-determination in cultural fire and bushfire management.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Government has also consulted broadly with the community on the development on key climate change policy as well as climate change legislation.</p> <p>The <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA) requires consultation on approvals of significant projects. In WA, the Environmental Protection Authority has systems and processes in place to consult with key stakeholders.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
121	Cease cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in public places of detention, including sexual violence, routine strip searches and inadequate mental health care facilities (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, Australia has taken steps to address matters related to the treatment of people in detention, including women, people with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the education of law enforcement officials.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p>The administration of the justice system and associated places of detention is largely the responsibility of states and territories.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT) requires that no-one may be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way and requires that anyone deprived of liberty must be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person.</p> <p>In 2023, the ACT Government introduced body scanning technology at its adult correctional centre to reduce the requirement for strip searches.</p> <p>In 2024 the ACT undertook law reform to provide for the privileges, powers and immunities of the ACT National Preventive Mechanism, to meet our human rights obligations under OPCAT and facilitate the monitoring of and visits to places of detention with a view to strengthening protections against torture, cruelty and other inhuman treatment or punishment.</p> <p>In February 2025, the ACT Government released its <i>Sexual Coercion and Violence Strategy</i>, which aims to prevent, track and respond to incident of sexual coercion and violence at its adult.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In NSW, Clause 164 of the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Regulation 2014 (NSW) strictly prohibits inmates being subjected to solitary confinement, corporal punishment, torture or cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment. It also prohibits inmates being subjected to any other punishment or treatment that may reasonably be expected to adversely affect the inmate's physical or mental health.</p> <p>The Inspector of Custodial Services is an independent statutory position responsible for inspecting adult correctional centres every five years. Reports on the operations and practices of NSW correctional centres arising from each inspection and an annual report of the Inspector's activities are tabled in the NSW Parliament. The Inspector of Custodial Services Amendment Bill 2024 passed the NSW Parliament on 19 February 2025 implementing recommendations of several recent public reviews and inquiries.</p> <p>Official Visitors and the NSW Ombudsman also play important roles in reviewing and reporting on conditions, treatment and outcomes for people in custody.</p> <p>In NSW correctional centres, the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Regulation 2014 (NSW) guides the conduct of searches including strip searches. Under the Custodial Operations Policies and Procedures Manual, correctional officers must not pat search, strip search or body-scan inmates of the opposite sex, except in exceptional circumstances or emergencies. Approval must be sought from the Governor or delegated officer if this is to occur.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Corrective Services NSW use full body x-ray scanners as a security screening tool to detect contraband that may be concealed externally or internally by a person. Body scanners are used as an alternative to strip searching inmates wherever practicable.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is dedicated to the humane management of prisoners under the <i>Correctional Services Act 2014</i> (NT). The <i>Monitoring of Places of Detention Act 2018</i> (NT) allows for UN Subcommittee visits to detention facilities in the NT.</p> <p>The Corrections Commissioner ensures prisoners have access to necessary health and mental health services. To address overcrowding and support those with mental health conditions, the NT Government is implementing an Infrastructure Master Plan to expand capacity and create dedicated women's facilities in Darwin and Alice Springs, while collaborating across agencies to improve forensic mental health services and advocating for legal reforms to limit indefinite detention</p> <p>There's no explicit authority to search individuals apprehended under the <i>Mental Health and Related Services Act 1998</i> (NT); each situation must prioritise safety. Individuals who cannot be searched are classified as high risk. The Custody and Transport Instruction specifies legal requirements for searches, affirming that only officers of the same gender will conduct these searches, unless unavoidable circumstances arise.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment is prohibited in Queensland under section 17 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i> (Qld). The Inspector of <i>Detention Services Act 2022</i> (Qld) establishes an Independent Inspector of Detention Services to provide greater oversight of Queensland's detention facilities. The Inspector of Detention Services operates independently and has the authority to regularly or randomly inspect places of detention and review their services at any time. The Inspector will report their findings to Parliament and make recommendations to ensure places of detention are managed well, and services support the general care, treatment, and well-being of detainees. The position of Inspector is held by the Queensland Ombudsman.</p> <p>In June 2023, Queensland Parliament passed the <i>Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Act 2022</i> (Qld). The Act facilitates visits by the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture to places of detention in Queensland.</p> <p>In June 2023, the <i>Corrective Services Act 2006</i> (Qld) was amended to provide a legislative head of power to support the use of x-ray body scanners to conduct searches as an alternative to removal of clothing searches. The Youth Justice (Conduct of Searches and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024 (Qld) provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated framework for searches of young people in custody to allow for gender-diverse and intersex children to nominate preferences. • X-ray imaging searches in Youth Detention Centres to reduce the need for searches involving the removal of clothes, protecting the dignity of children in custody and reducing trauma. <p>In June 2024, the <i>Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000</i> (Qld) was amended to enhance gender safeguards, that protect the persons rights and dignity, whilst reducing risk to staff and other persons in custody.</p>

		<p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA ensures a quality humane approach to the management of prisoners and works to a Standard Operating Procedure that prescribes the legislative requirements and procedures for searching prisoners. Searches of children and young people at Kurlana Tapa are undertaken in accordance with the <i>Youth Justice Administration Act 2016 (SA)</i>, with requirements embedded into operational procedure including around recording. In all circumstances, the least intrusive search is utilised to ensure safety and security. Since the introduction of millimetre wave body scanners and wand scan technology in August 2020, there has been no semi-naked searches of children and young people at Kurlana Tapa.</p> <p>The centre is now investing in low dose x-ray scanners in response to an increase in contraband over the same period to dramatically improve upon detection rates while achieving the same outcome.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>In 2021, Tasmania passed its <i>OPCAT Implementation Act 2021 (Tas)</i>, appointing the Tasmanian Ombudsman as Tasmania’s National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). Tasmania is the most progressed Australian jurisdiction in its implementation of OPCAT. In addition to Tasmania’s NPM, the Tasmanian Custodial Inspector is an active and embedded oversight mechanism of places of detention in Tasmania. Since 2021, the Tasmanian Custodial Inspector has produced a number of reports concerning custodial practices in Tasmania.</p> <p>The Tasmania Prison Service (TPS) has implemented body scanner across its facilities, reducing significantly the need to undertake personal searches whilst still ensuring safety of people in custody. Tasmania’s youth justice laws prohibit personal unclothed searches necessary for a relevant search purpose and approval has been obtained by the Directorate to conduct a personal search.</p> <p>Tasmania has comprehensive policies relating to bullying and safety of prisoners which guide the way the TPS works around matters such as stopping sexual violence.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Section 10 of the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)</i> (the Charter) protects Victorians from any treatment or punishment that is cruel, inhuman, or degrading. In addition, section 22 of the Charter protects the right of Victorians to be treated humanely, and with respect and dignity if detained.</p> <p>The Victorian Government response to the <i>Cultural Review of the Adult Custodial Corrections System</i>, released in March 2023, advised that strip searches are currently used as a last resort as part of a suite of other mechanisms to limit contraband entering prisons. The response also advises that significant work has taken place over many years to reduce strip searching requirements in the Victorian custodial corrections system, including use of body scanning technology and saliva drug testing.</p> <p>The <i>Youth Justice Act 2024 (Vic)</i>, which received Royal Assent on 10 September 2024, provides strict guidelines on the use of unclothed searches in youth justice centres.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>WA’s Corrective Services introduced X-ray body scanning technology to Melaleuca Women’s Prison in April 2023. This technology has proven to be effective, evidenced by enhanced contraband detection and a reduction in strip searching.</p> <p>A further two sites (adult male prisons) have since introduced x-ray body scanning, with plans to further expand this capability (pending available funding).</p>
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 123, arbitrary and indefinite detention of persons with disabilities • 124, prisoners with disabilities, solitary confinement and access to support and mental health services • 125, the needs of women in prison, sexual violence against women in detention • 135, prison overcrowding, inadequate mental health institutions, indefinite detention of persons with disabilities • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 138, 139, national preventive mechanism, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture • 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system • 242, access to justice for persons with disabilities • 243, 250, remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities in institutions or residences.
122	Take necessary legal and administrative measures to end systemic police brutality against the indigenous population (<i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p><u>Justice Policy Partnership</u></p> <p>Under the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap), the Justice Policy Partnership (JPP) has been established to bring together representatives from the Coalition of Peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, independent First Nations justice experts, and senior representatives from the Australian and State and Territory governments to take a joined-up approach to addressing the overincarceration of First Nations adults and young people (Outcomes 10 and 11 of Closing the Gap).</p> <p>The JPP was established in 2021 under Closing the Gap Priority Reform One, Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making, and is focused on providing a national joined up approach to improve Closing the Gap Targets 10 and 11. JPP members represent the Australian Government, state and territory governments, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander justice experts.</p> <p>A Strategic Framework to guide the work of the JPP was approved in June 2023, and the JPP is now focusing on implementing priority actions under the Strategic Framework, including an anti-racism strategy for the law and justice sector, strengthening the Aboriginal justice sector and developing a disability-justice cross partnership.</p> <p><u>Australian Federal Police (AFP)</u></p> <p>The Professional Standards Team within the AFP review any complaint of excessive use of force pursuant to the Australian Federal Police (Categories of Conduct) Determination 2023, and take appropriate action (which includes applying a range of</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>sanctions, or terminating employment where appropriate) against any member found to have breached the AFP Commissioner's Order on operational safety.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>A First Nations Cultural Literacy program has been developed for ACT Policing (ACTP) and is being socialised with ACT First Nations communities. The training is mandatory for all ACTP police members, for professional members with public facing roles and members who investigate complaints about ACTP.</p> <p>AFP members are governed by the AFP Commissioner's Order 3 (CO3) in the application of Use of Force principles. CO3 also articulates mandatory reporting and training requirements, related to use of force by police officers</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In NSW, the <i>NSW Police Force Aboriginal Strategic Direction 2023</i>, which was renewed in 2024, identifies critical opportunities for police to strengthen and maintain cohesive partnerships with Aboriginal communities and key agencies.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is developing Cultural Reform Plan for its Police Department that builds on increasing and enhancing an inclusive workforce, valuing the richness that diversity brings, and where all staff feel accepted and respected. This together with other commitments such as cultural awareness training, these elements set a solid platform for the agency.</p> <p>The NT Government also regularly reviews and updates its policies to ensure compliance, and that practices are appropriate.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, the Queensland Police Service has established the First Nations Cultural Capability Training Unit to develop, coordinate and conduct training in cultural capability (both First Nations and multicultural) across the organisation for sworn and unsworn employees at all levels.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In SA, legislation, corporate policy, procedures and <i>SAPOL Our Strategy 2030</i> outlines the standards and requirements of SA police to treat everyone with consistent and inclusive behaviour, showing concern and compassion.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>In Tasmania, the <i>Tasmania Police Aboriginal Strategic Plan</i> provides a framework by which Tasmania Police will focus on the development of relationships with the wider Aboriginal community to ensure that, through consultation, all reasonable expectations can be met.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>A suite of cultural and unconscious bias awareness training is currently provided to the criminal justice workforce to help reduce racism and discrimination in policing to address the disproportionate impact this as on First Nations people. The 2023 <i>Victorian Government Aboriginal Affairs Report</i> noted a significant increase in the number of Victorian Police Officers who</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>have received Aboriginal cultural awareness training, with 57.9 per cent of all officers trained as of 30 June 2023. Further, <i>Victoria's anti-racism strategy 2024–29</i> identifies initiatives to challenge internal biases and the unequal use of discretion in policing.</p> <p>Recommendation 27 of Victoria's Yoorrook Justice Commission's <i>Yoorrook for Justice Report</i>, released in August 2023, calls for a new independent police oversight authority, including a First Nations-led division for complaints. The Victorian Government is considering this recommendation, and the Department of Justice and Community Safety is currently engaging Victoria's Aboriginal Justice Caucus (AJC) and other First Nations stakeholders on potential reforms. Additionally, AJC is leading a First Nations-led review of Victoria's progress on implementing the recommendations from the 1991 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Police Academy continues to deliver Aboriginal Culture Awareness Training with a strong focus on enhancing cultural understanding and operational effectiveness. The training aims to foster awareness of Aboriginal Culture and the unique policing challenges faced by Aboriginal communities, while equipping officers with the skills to engage respectfully and effectively.</p> <p>In 2023, the WA Police Force appointed Mechelle Turvey as the Assistant Director of the Community Liaison Unit (CLU). A respected Aboriginal leader and former WA Australian of the Year, Ms Turvey brings invaluable lived experiences to her role, particularly in guiding police recruits on empathetic and trauma-informed approaches to supporting victims of crime. Following the amalgamation of the CLU into the Aboriginal Affairs Division (AAD), Ms Turvey now serves as Acting Assistant Director of the AAD, which leads initiatives such as the Aboriginal Employees Network, cultural security in policy and practice, and rapid response capabilities for communities in crisis.</p> <p>The WA Police Force has also established Aboriginal Advisory Groups in collaboration with Aboriginal community members and key agencies. These groups support co-designed responses to community and policing priorities. The newly structured AAD comprises three specialised units focused on district and community engagement, cultural projects, and governance, policy, and strategy.</p> <p>To further strengthen cultural capability, Aboriginal Cultural Induction Packages have been developed for all regional police stations. These packages incorporate local knowledge through direct consultation with Aboriginal Elders and leaders. Additionally, 19 Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers are embedded across the state to support culturally safe engagement, particularly during critical incidents, and to promote safety, cultural understanding, and crime prevention.</p>
123	Abolish policies, legislation and practices that allow the arbitrary and indefinite detention of persons with disabilities (<i>Belarus</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>The <i>National Statement of Principles Relating to Persons Unfit to Plead or Found Not Guilty by Reason of Cognitive or Mental Health Impairment</i> (National Principles) recognise the rights of persons with cognitive or mental health impairment, and seek to identify safeguards throughout legal processes and during the period in which a person who is unfit to plead or not guilty by reason of cognitive or mental health impairment is subject to orders. They are best practice principles to ensure that treatment is tailored, inclusive and recovery oriented, and that agencies and service providers collaborate to provide coordinated care.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Commonwealth and state and territory criminal law regimes aim to protect and support all people living with disability who are exposed to the criminal justice system, including persons with cognitive or mental health impairments. Aligned with the National Principles, Australian governments have implemented structured review procedures for persons subject to custodial supervision orders following findings of unfitness due to mental health or cognitive impairment; and in the majority of states and territories the application of limiting or maximum terms of detention are required on custodial supervision orders.</p> <p>In response to a recommendation made by Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission), the Australian Government and state and territory governments have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the National Principles, including aspects regarding indefinite detention. The Commonwealth will lead an initial review of the Principles through the Standing Council of Attorneys-General. • Improving data collection relating to people found unfit to plead or not guilty by reason of cognitive or mental health impairment, subject to relevant scoping work to assess existing frameworks and system capability, and personal privacy protections. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>Section 18(1) of the <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT) prohibits arbitrary detention. ACT legislation does not permit indefinite detention in a criminal matter.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In NSW, people with mental health or cognitive impairments who are ordered to be detained under certain circumstances, including when they have received a special verdict of act proven but not criminally responsible and are subsequently detained, are classified as forensic patients. NSW legislation establishes the process for reviews of forensic patients by the Mental Health Review Tribunal (MHRT). The MHRT is required to review forensic patients every six months (or on its own motion). Following each review, the MHRT may make an order for the patient's release (which can be unconditional or subject to conditions) or continued detention, care and treatment.</p> <p>In its 2024 response to the Disability Royal Commission, the NSW Government recognised the need for systems and services that properly support and supervise forensic patients with cognitive impairment. A cross-agency team has reviewed current step-down transitional support and accommodation arrangements for forensic patients with cognitive impairment and is identifying options for reform.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is committed to upholding the rights of people with disability and ensuring appropriate care is received rather than being subject to arbitrary or indefinite detention. NT Government actively works to review and update policies and practices with relevant agencies to support reforms that prioritise rehabilitation, least restrictive care, and timely transitions out of custodial settings where clinically appropriate.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, the <i>Mental Health Act 2016</i> (Qld) provides for a person who is determined to be of unsound mind or unfit for trial because of their intellectual disability to be placed on a Forensic Order (disability) by the Mental Health Court if the court considers the order necessary because of the person's mental condition and to protect the community. There are no statutory limits for individuals' detention within an Authorised Mental Health Service or the Forensic Disability Service, with detention informed by care considerations.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>There is no legislation or policy in Tasmania permitting arbitrary and indefinite detention of people with disability. The <i>Mental Health Act 2013</i> (Tas) provides for Assessment Orders and Treatment Orders and establishes the statutory offices of Chief Civil Psychiatrist and Chief Forensic Psychiatrist. The Act also provides for an independent Mental Health Tribunal and for the appointment of Official Visitors. The <i>Disability Services Act 2011</i> (Tas) is being reformed, and the <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1995</i> (Tas) has recently been amended, to further strengthen the rights of people with disability.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>Legislative changes in WA, which commenced in 2024, removed the practice of indefinite detention of people with mental impairment in the justice system (including disabilities constituting a mental impairment) and now, where custody is ordered, requires courts to impose a maximum period aligned to the likely sentence they would have imposed had the person been found guilty of the offence.</p>
125	Address the needs of women in prison and prosecute and punish all cases of sexual violence against women in detention (<i>Zambia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In February 2025, NSW strengthened the offence prohibiting sexual conduct and intimate relationships between staff and inmates as recommended by a Special Commission of Inquiry.</p> <p>Female offenders in custody in NSW can access the Female Inmate Advocacy service that provides assistance with legal and other matters. The specialist position of Principal Advisor Women Offenders within Corrective Services advocates for the needs of all women in custody. Corrective Services NSW delivers female specific programs and interventions for women offenders as well as programs targeted at improving outcomes for Aboriginal women and women in custody who are parents.</p> <p>NSW is expanding the provision of culturally safe placed-based throughcare following the success of Justice Our Way (JOW) program. JOW is a culturally safe, trauma responsive, Aboriginal designed and delivered throughcare program supporting incarcerated Aboriginal women in NSW to successfully transition back to the community and prevent their reoffending. The program takes a strengths-based and holistic approach to address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal women in the justice system by emphasising healing from trauma through connection to culture, country, family, community and mind, body and spiritual wellbeing.</p>

			<p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is focused on meeting the needs of incarcerated women and addressing sexual violence in custodial settings. To support this, two dedicated women’s correctional facilities are being established—one in Darwin and one in Alice Springs. The Darwin facility will align with the Infrastructure Master Plan to meet contemporary standards. The Government is also working with a non-government organisation to implement a specialised program for women facing Domestic, Family, and Sexual Violence, emphasising continuity of care and community support after release. Additionally, an Industry and Skills Employment Strategy is being developed to improve education and employment outcomes for women in custody, recognising the role of economic empowerment in reducing recidivism. Lastly, a Safety in Community Counselling Model will provide offender-specific counselling.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>On 4 August 2023, the first annual report on the Queensland Government’s progress implementing the Women’s Safety and Justice Reform program was tabled in the Queensland Parliament. The report shows significant progress has been made to improve the experiences of Queensland women within the criminal justice system, hold domestic violence perpetrators to account, and criminalise coercive control.</p> <p>The <i>Hear Her Voice</i> reports made a combined 277 recommendations to bring about systemic and cultural change in responding to violence against women and children and improving women and girls’ experiences in the criminal justice system. The Queensland Government responded by committing \$588 million to implement these recommendations, bringing total investment committed to end domestic, family, and sexual violence to \$1.5 billion since 2015.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania’s <i>Third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan 2022–2027: Survivors at the Centre</i> provides \$100 million to initiatives that support victim-survivors of family, domestic and sexual violence, including women in custodial settings. These initiatives include funding 100 rapid rehousing homes for women and children escaping family violence and delivering on Tasmania’s Arch Centres, which provide a coordinated inter-agency response for victim-survivors of family, domestic and sexual abuse. In addition, a Victim Survivor Advisory Council establishes a direct line to Government on the development of laws and policies.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government provides specific programs to support women in custody. These include parenting programs, specialist trauma and financial counselling, employment programs and behaviour programs that focus on violent offending and substance abuse.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Government funds a number of prisons in-reach programs which address the legal needs of women in prison. Women and People in custody and/or prisoners are Priority Client Groups in the <i>WA Legal Assistance Strategy 2022–2025</i>. The <i>Women’s Estate Strategic Plan 2022–2025</i> builds on Corrective Services’ commitment to provide gender specific, culturally appropriate and trauma informed services to achieve better outcomes for women in custody and to improve their opportunities for success on release from prison. This plan will guide the activities of the women’s estate, its staff and operations over the next three years.</p>
128–133,	Continue to combat family, domestic and sexual violence	Accepts	<u>Implemented – ongoing</u>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
213–218, 220–227	against women and girls especially among population groups that are disproportionately affected (<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iraq, Republic of Moldova, Singapore, Islamic Republic of Iran</i>)		<p>The Australian Government is committed to a country free of gender-based violence – where all people live free from fear and violence and are safe at home, at work, at school, in the community and online. This is a human right for all people.</p> <p>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–2032</p> <p>Released in October 2022, The <i>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032</i> (National Plan) sets out Australia's vision to end gender-based violence in Australia in one generation. The National Plan outlines this across four domains: prevention; early intervention; response; recovery; and healing. The National Plan's <i>First Action Plan 2023–2027</i> sets out the actions that the Commonwealth, state and territory governments are undertaking to implement the National Plan. The Outcomes Framework under the National Plan allows tracking, monitoring, and reporting our progress and changes over the life of the plan.</p> <p>In September 2024, the National Cabinet agreed to a comprehensive \$4.7 billion package to prevent gender-based violence. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piloting new approaches to better identify high-risk perpetrators of family and domestic violence and share information about them across systems and jurisdictions. • Delivering support for frontline specialist and legal services responding to violence. • Services to support children and young people who have experienced and been exposed to violence to heal and recover. • Addressing the role that systems and harmful industries play in exacerbating violence. • Supporting legal services. • Renewing the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses</i> up until 2030. <p>The National Cabinet also agreed to maintain focus on missing and murdered First Nations women and children.</p> <p>The Australian Government's investments in support of women's safety and the National Plan amount to \$4 billion, since 2022, including \$925.2 million over five years from 2023–24 to permanently establish the Leaving Violence Program which helps people experiencing intimate partner violence leave relationships, providing those eligible with access to up to \$5,000 in financial support, referral services, risk assessments and safety planning.</p> <p>In addition, Australia's Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner commenced in October 2022 to provide evidence-based policy advice to the Australian Government, promote coordination across jurisdictions and amplify the voices of people with lived experience.</p> <p><u>National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse</u></p> <p>The National Office for Child Safety (NOCS) leads the development and implementation of several national priorities to support victims and protect children and young people from child sexual abuse, noting that child sexual abuse disproportionately impacts girls. Priorities include leading the implementation of the 10-year <i>National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse 2021–2030</i>, which provides a long-term, consistent and coordinated approach to preventing child sexual abuse in all settings, including institutional, familial and online.</p>

		<p>Key measures being implemented under the National Strategy’s First Action Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of a national information and referral service to assist victims and survivors of child sexual abuse, practitioners and the general public to navigate the service system and access help and information • undertaking a national baseline analysis of specialist and community support services responding to child sexual abuse, and developing Minimum Practice Standards to guide service provision • delivery of a national awareness raising campaign to promote behavioural and cultural change to prevent child sexual abuse • funding quality, trauma informed and culturally sensitive legal services for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse; and establishing a national online chat service that delivers free legal assistance to children and young people experiencing or at risk of harm, including sexual abuse and domestic and family violence. <p>The Australian Government is also committed to developing a Second Action Plan under the National Strategy, with design work progressing through 2025.</p> <p>First Nations women and children</p> <p><u>Dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan</u></p> <p>Included in the Australian Government’s \$4 billion investment in support of women’s safety and the National Plan is dedicated funding to end violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.</p> <p>Through the 2023–24 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$263 million to deliver dedicated First Nations family safety activities. This includes \$194 million to support the dedicated <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2023-2025</i> (Action Plan) under the National Plan, to work to address the disproportionately high rates of family, domestic and sexual violence that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing Capacity of Crisis Accommodation Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. • Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Programs in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisations. • Community-led Prevention Services, Programs and Campaigns for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children. • Community-led Men’s Wellness Centres for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. <p>The Australian Government is committed to support the development of a First Nations led, nationally representative data collection that provides a profile of Family domestic and sexual violence in the community and is with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence (Advisory Council) to determine the best approach for implementation.</p> <p>Delivering on the Action Plan, the Australian Government announced investment of more than \$103 million to fund new grant opportunities for eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCOS) and Indigenous-led organisations. The 4 immediate priority grants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing capacity of crisis accommodation services • family, domestic and sexual violence programs in ACCOs • community-led prevention services, programs and campaigns • community-led men’s wellness centres.
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Funding under the Action Plan also includes the establishment of a National Peak Body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety. The Australian Government Department of Social Services is partnering with the Coalition of Peaks to establish the National Peak Body.</p> <p><u>Our Ways – Strong Ways - Our Voices – National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence 2025-2035.</u></p> <p>Funding under the National Plan, also includes \$4.1 million for the development of a standalone First Nations National Plan to respond to violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women and Children. The Australian Government is working in genuine partnership with the Our Ways – Strong Ways - Our Voices Steering Committee to develop Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices – National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence 2025–2035 which is expected to be launched in late-2025.</p> <p>Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices is being developed through nationwide consultation and collaboration between governments, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with lived and living experience, communities, advisory bodies and organisations. The Plan will provide a policy framework that is based on a foundation of consultation to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ voices, needs, and experiences are central to this work, and it places shared responsibility on all governments to achieve this.</p> <p>Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices provides a roadmap for long-term change. It will guide a whole-of-society approach to address both the alarmingly high rates of family, domestic and sexual violence and the barriers to accessing support as part of the ongoing efforts to achieve Target 13 of the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i>.</p> <p>The Australian Government remains committed to supporting the development of a First Nations led, nationally representative data collection that provides a profile of family domestic and sexual violence in the community. The department has been working with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence to determine the best approach for implementation.</p> <p>Coercive control</p> <p><u>National Principles to Address Coercive Control in Family and Domestic Violence</u></p> <p>In September 2023, the Australian, state and territory governments released the <i>National Principles to Address Coercive Control in Family and Domestic Violence</i> (National Principles), which set out a shared understanding of the common features and impacts of coercive control, as well as guiding considerations to inform responses to this issue.</p> <p>Work is also underway to develop training and education programs in family and domestic violence that will embed the National Principles as a common national foundation.</p>

		<p>Family and domestic violence leave</p> <p>In 2022, the Australian Government amended the <i>Fair Work 2009</i> (Cth) Act to provide employees, including casual employees, with an entitlement of 10-days paid family and domestic violence leave annually to deal with impacts of family and domestic violence where it is impractical for the employee to do so outside work hours.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT has a Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence (DFSV) Coordinator-General role, which had sexual violence added to its remit in 2022. In 2022, the ACT introduced an affirmative consent model and launched a public community education campaign in 2025, established a new DFSV information sharing scheme in 2024 (to commence in 2026), delivered the Sexual Assault (Police) Review in 2024, set up numerous response and prevention innovative pilot programs, and is currently developing an ACT DFSV Strategy to provide a whole of government, whole of community approach to preventing and responding to DFSV over the next 10 years.</p> <p>The 2025-26 Budget provides a total of \$24.5 million in new investment towards DFSV initiatives over the next four years, including a significant funding boost for frontline services. The ACT has directed almost \$10.5 million to ACCOs and Aboriginal-led organisations providing DFSV services between 2023-2029.</p> <p>Following the 2025–26 Budget, the ACT Government is investing \$137 million to respond to domestic, family and sexual violence initiatives over the next four years, including a significant funding boost for frontline services. The ACT Government has committed almost \$65 million to implement the <i>Long Yarn Report</i>, a community-led report, with funding provided to Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations and Aboriginal-led organisations providing domestic, family and sexual services over three years from 2026- 2027.</p> <p>The ACT Government has been actively implementing priority recommendations from the <i>Listen. Take action to prevent believe and heal 2021</i> and the <i>Sexual Assault (Police) Review</i>, to improve responses to sexual violence in the criminal just system.</p> <p>The ACT has also: introduced and reviewed an affirmative consent model; launched a consent education campaign; established a new Domestic Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme; set up response and prevention pilot programs; and is currently developing an ACT domestic, family, and sexual violence strategy to provide a whole of government, whole of community approach to preventing and responding to domestic, family and sexual over the next 10 years.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The <i>NSW Domestic and Family Violence Plan 2022–2027</i> and <i>NSW Sexual Violence Plan 2022–2027</i> (the NSW Plans) provide strategic direction to prevent and respond to domestic and family violence and sexual violence in NSW over five years. The NSW Plans align with the National Plan, and build on the significant work and reforms already underway in NSW to address domestic, family and sexual violence.</p> <p>NSW created a standalone criminal offence of coercive control, the commencement of the offence in 2024 was accompanied by a website and other community awareness campaigns on coercive control to help raise awareness and educate the public.</p> <p>The NSW Government has also undertaken significant legal reforms responding to domestic and family violence including: new measures that targeting serious and high risk domestic violence offenders; a new civil protection order scheme of</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>serious domestic abuse prevention orders; and a modernised definition of stalking that more clearly covers technology facilitated tracking or monitoring conduct.</p> <p>New bail laws in NSW: make it more difficult for those accused of serious domestic violence offences to get bail; require electronic monitoring of people charged with certain serious domestic violence offences against intimate partners who are on bail; and require bail decision-makers to consider domestic abuse risk factors and the views of victims and their family members in matters.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In the NT in 2023, significant legislative reforms were made to address gender-based violence, expand the definition of domestic violence to include coercive control and improve offender accountability. Ongoing legislative reforms occurring in response to high domestic and family violence rates.</p> <p>The NT Government currently funds the operation of two Alternative to Custody (ATC) facilities in the NT, including the Anindilyakwa Healing Centre for Aboriginal men on Groote Eylandt (AHC). While the AHC is not a specialised domestic and family violence facility, programs are tailored to the specific needs of clients and their offending and can include linkage and liaison support with specialist domestic and family violence programs.</p> <p>The Community Justice Centre currently provides mediation services in relation to family and community violence, with the exception of intimate partner violence.</p> <p>The NT's <i>Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Framework 2018–2028</i> prioritises the safety and well-being of women and children in prevention, intervention, response, recovery, and reform efforts. This framework supports community-led approaches to assist disproportionately affected populations in line with the National Plan. The NT Government has committed \$180 million over five years to prevent and respond to domestic, family and sexual violence.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland is undertaking major domestic, family and sexual violence reforms to improve victim safety, hold persons using violence to account and improve efficiency for police responding to domestic and family violence. The reforms build on the state's 10-year <i>Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026</i>, the <i>Sexual Violence Framework</i> and the landmark Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce December 2021 and May 2022 reports.</p> <p>Legislation to criminalise coercive control, introduce an affirmative model of consent, and deliver improvements for victims in courts, was passed in March 2024. Further legislative amendments are progressing to allow police officers responding to domestic and family violence to issue on the spot Police Protection Directions, to expand the use of video recorded evidence-in-chief for domestic and family violence victim survivors, and to support the roll-out of GPS monitoring of high-risk domestic violence offenders.</p> <p>People with disability are among those who are disproportionately affected by family, domestic and sexual violence. Through the <i>Safety, Rights and Justice Targeted Action Plan 2025–2027</i> under <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i>, Queensland has committed to actions to combat violence against women and girls with disabilities.</p>

		<p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The SA Government is taking action to help end domestic, family and sexual violence, and to support people impacted by violence. The Government has progressed a range of legislative measures, preventative actions and policies, and recovery options to tackle domestic, family and sexual violence. This work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring electronic monitoring as a condition of bail for those charged with breaches of domestic violence intervention orders when the breach involved physical violence or a threat of physical violence. • Establishing two new domestic, family and sexual violence prevention and recovery hubs in metropolitan suburbs. • Legislating to criminalise coercive control. • Undertaking a review of legislation pertaining to sexual consent and sexual violence. <p>The Government has additionally established a Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence in SA. The overarching focus for the Commission is to examine existing policies, legislation, administrative arrangements, system structure and funding levers in South Australia to develop recommendations about what needs to change. Recommendations will be directed at designing a domestic, family and sexual violence system to better meet the needs of those who interact with it, and which is capable of delivering the generational change required to bring an end to domestic, family and sexual violence. The Royal Commission commenced in mid-2024 and submitted its final report to the SA Government in August 2025.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania’s <i>Third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan (2022–2027)</i> is the Tasmanian Government’s co-ordinated, whole of government action plan to respond to family and sexual violence. More than \$100 million is allocated over five years for 38 actions. These include new actions and continuing or enhanced actions from the Tasmanian Government’s previous two action plans.</p> <p>Tasmania commenced the Arch program in 2023 in two centres which offer support to child and adult victim-survivors of sexual harm in a safe environment that is co-located with other support services. Victim-survivors can choose the services they use and the actions they take in response to harm they have experienced. A third centre is planned.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government has representation on the Standalone National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Safety Steering Committee. This Committee’s role is to develop the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence: Our Ways-Strong-Ways-Our Voices.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria’s 10-year <i>Ending Family Violence: Victoria’s Plan for Change</i> (the Plan) to stop family violence commenced in 2016. The Plan outlines Victoria’s family violence reform agenda and sets outcomes and initial targets to prevent and respond to family and sexual violence. Progress against and activities to deliver the Plan are identified in Rolling Action Plans (RAP). The first RAP laid the foundation for family violence reforms. The second RAP built on this, providing new areas of focus to have a system that is connected, sustainable, and delivers better outcomes for victim survivors. The third and final RAP was released in September 2025 and seeks to consolidate these reforms and strengthen the existing family violence system.</p> <p>In May 2024, Victoria announced the Women’s Safety Package that will change laws to keep victim survivors safe, perpetrators in view, and initiatives aimed at driving cultural change. This package aims to drive action at every stage,</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>including better responding to victim survivors when violence occurs, delivering a stronger justice response and continuing the prevention response to stop the violence before it starts.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>Prevention of family and domestic violence in WA is directly supported by the strategic policy frameworks <i>Path to Safety: Western Australia's Strategy to Reduce Family and Domestic Violence 2020–2030</i> and the <i>Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy 2022–2032</i>.</p> <p>The WA Government is developing the <i>Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Strategy and Action Plan</i> to improve outcomes for victim-survivors of sexual violence, focusing on primary prevention, support for recovery and holding perpetrators to account.</p> <p>In 2024 the WA Government released <i>Strengthening Responses to Family and Domestic Violence – System Reform Plan 2024-2029</i> resulting from the work of the Family and Domestic Violence Taskforce which was a key request of the family and domestic violence sector and lived experience advocates during the Domestic Violence Summit in August 2023. An inaugural progress report to end of October 2024 shows progress on all 21 projects supporting the 17 reform actions of the System Reform Plan.</p> <p>The <i>WA Youth Action Plan 2024–2027 Koorlangka Bidi</i> sets actions to support increased delivery of primary prevention (respectful relationship) education in schools</p> <p>See also recommendations 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds.</p>
134	Continue its international efforts to prevent crimes against humanity (<i>Armenia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented - ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to pursuing accountability for serious international crimes. Australia has consistently advocated at United Nations General Assembly (UNGA Sixth) Committee (Legal) sessions for the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity.</p> <p>The elaboration of a Crimes against Humanity Convention aligns with this commitment. As Australia has previously consistently stated at UNGA Sixth Committee sessions, a Crimes against Humanity Convention would close the gap in international legal framework governing accountability for serious international crimes.</p> <p>In 2024, Australia co-sponsored the UN General Assembly <i>Resolution 79/122</i>, which decided to convene a UN Conference of Plenipotentiaries in 2028 and 2029 to elaborate and conclude a legally binding instrument on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity. Australia will continue to engage in discussions on this topic.</p>
136-137	Address the overrepresentation of indigenous peoples in the criminal justice system/prison population (<i>Bahamas, Romania</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government recognises that the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system regrettably results from intergenerational trauma, racism, disempowerment, dispossession, the impacts of colonisation, the forced removal of First Nations children, and compounded entrenched socio-economic disadvantage.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Australian governments are working closely through the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) and the Justice Policy Partnership to address the underlying causes of the overrepresentation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system and reduce First Nations incarceration rates.</p> <p>The Closing the Gap contains two justice targets, which are key priorities for all Australian governments in partnership with First Nations people, communities and organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 10: By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15 per cent. • Target 11: By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10-17 years) in detention by at least 30 per cent. <p>The Justice Policy Partnership (JPP) was established in 2021 under Closing the Gap Priority Reform One, Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making and is focused on providing a national joined up approach to improving Closing the Gap Targets 10 and 11. JPP members represent the Australian Government, state and territory governments, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander justice experts.</p> <p>A Strategic Framework to guide the work of the JPP was approved in June 2023, and the JPP is now focusing on implementing priority actions under the Strategic Framework, including an anti-racism strategy and sector-strengthening plan for the law and justice sector, and developing a reporting template for Australian governments to report on the impact of new justice policies and law reforms on First Nations people.</p> <p>Australian Government initiatives to reduce the overrepresentation of First Nations people in incarceration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>National Legal Assistance Partnership 2020–2025</i> delivered over \$2.4 billion over five years to legal assistance providers, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services, which are Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations that provide culturally appropriate legal services to First Nations people. • The <i>National Access to Justice Partnership 2025–2030</i> will deliver \$3.9 billion in Australian Government funding for legal assistance services in all states and territories over five years from 1 July 2025, and ongoing funding beyond the five-year agreement. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$837.8 million for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services ○ \$366.8 million for Family Violence Prevention and Legal Services. <p>These services increase access to justice for First Nations people and help to prevent the escalation of legal problems in a culturally safe way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$69 million commitment over four years (2022–23 to 2025–26) to pursue meaningful change through justice reinvestment by investing in place-based initiatives, led and implemented by First Nations communities and organisations, to help turn the tide on incarceration and deaths in custody. • A commitment of \$12.5 million over four years (from 2022–23 to 2025–26) to design and establish an independent National Justice Reinvestment Unit to coordinate and support justice reinvestment initiatives at a national level. The unit was established in February 2025.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An additional \$10 million commitment over four years (2022–23 to 2025–26) for the Justice Reinvestment in Central Australia Program as part of its \$250 million plan for A Better, Safer Future for Central Australia. <p>States and territories</p> <p>In Australia's federal system, states and territories have primary responsibility for criminal justice systems in their respective jurisdictions. Australia's states and territories continue programs and initiatives to address overrepresentation as part of the Closing the Gap targets include.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT targets overrepresentation through its <i>RR25by25 and Beyond — A Justice Reinvestment Strategy</i> for the ACT, the Territory is focussing on community-led early intervention and diversion initiatives, alongside targeted integrated rehabilitation, and reintegration supports; an Independent Review into the Overrepresentation of First Nations people in the ACT Criminal Justice System; and a two year commissioning process in partnership with Community to optimise justice support services delivered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The ACT Government provides alternative supervision and reporting at three locations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offenders who are subject to community-based corrections orders (or eligible bail supervision orders). Community Corrections Officers (CCOs), which enables offenders to meet their reporting obligations in a culturally appropriate environment, with the aim to reduce the risk of non-compliance and promote successful completion of orders and foster linkages between offenders, Community Corrections and other culturally appropriate services.</p> <p>In 2022, the ACT Government agreed to commission a review of all First Nations justice programs over a staged process in partnership with community. The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations and people with lived experience are participating in targeted workshops to address the underlying causes of overrepresentation and ensure services are designed to provide optimal support.</p> <p>In recognition of the disadvantages and challenges facing the ACT's First Nations people and community and the national agreement to close the gap on this disadvantage, ACT Policing has committed to working with the ACT Government, First Nations people, representatives and service providers and justice-sector partners to reduce over-representation in the criminal justice system.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In 2023, the NSW Attorney-General announced the expansion of the Justice Reinvestment approach which aims to resource communities to develop and deliver solutions that reduce the contact of Aboriginal adults and young people with the criminal justice system, including the police, courts and prisons.</p> <p>The NSW Government supports the Justice Reinvestment approach which aims to resource communities to develop and deliver solutions that reduce the contact of Aboriginal adults and young people with the criminal justice system, including the police, courts, and prisons. Justice Reinvestment initiatives are led by Aboriginal people, have a systems focus and are informed by data and evidence. Justice Reinvestment works towards achieving Targets 10, 11 and 13 under Closing the Gap.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The NSW Government continues to invest in the Youth Koori Court which is part of the Children's Court and is specifically for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been charged with a criminal offence. The Youth Koori Court has the same powers as the Children's Court but uses a different process to better involve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, their families and the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the court process.</p> <p>In 2025 the NSW Government further expanded the Circle Sentencing Program which aims to help reduce reoffending, improve justice outcomes and improve community safety. It is available to eligible defendants who plead guilty to or are found guilty of criminal offences in a local court. Rather than being sentenced by a magistrate alone, defendants are sentenced by a magistrate alongside representatives from the local Aboriginal community, such as elders.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government continues focus on addressing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples overrepresentation in the justice system.</p> <p>Underpinning this commitment is the focus on developing a number of strategies targeting cultural reform, anti-racism and related training. These elements acknowledge the broader challenges and inequalities experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that can contribute to an overrepresentation in the justice system.</p> <p>Commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment pathways that target a 30 per cent representation of Aboriginal representation in all facets of the NT Police (reflecting the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples overall population for the NT). • Ensuring access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples language speakers at the Northern Territory's Joint Emergency Services Communication Centre where ATSI staff are physically located in the call centre. <p>In August 2021, the NT Government launched the <i>Aboriginal Justice Agreement 2021–2027</i> which outlines how parties will work together to improve justice outcomes for Aboriginal Territorians. The three aims of the agreement are to reduce offending and imprisonment of Aboriginal Territorians; engage and support aboriginal leadership; and improve justice responses and services for Aboriginal Territorians.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, the First Nations Justice Office was established in 2023 to develop and implement a co-designed whole-of-government and community strategy to address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Queensland criminal justice system. <i>Better Justice Together: Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Justice Strategy 2024–2031</i> and its <i>Foundational Action Plan</i>, which was released in July 2024, are directed at early intervention and prevention, and improving the way the criminal justice system works with, and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The Queensland Government is delivering programs that prioritise culturally responsive services to reduce the overrepresentation of First Nations young people in the youth justice system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying on Track program to support young people after release from detention. • Regional Reset Program to provide intensive intervention to young people at risk of offending.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold Standard Early Intervention including the Kickstarter Grants program to restore community safety through locally focused community-led initiatives. <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The SA Government, in partnership with the SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations Network, is investing in policy and place-based partnerships to drive Aboriginal community-led outcomes on Closing the Gap, specifically under Targets 10 and 11.</p> <p>SA continues to increase access and availability of diversion programs to divert young children away from involvement in the justice system and support efforts to reduce the rates of detention of Aboriginal children. The SA Government, in partnership with the SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations Network, is investing in policy and place-based partnerships to drive Aboriginal community-led outcomes on Closing the Gap, specifically under Targets 10 and 11. This includes the SA Justice Partnership Committee and the Youth Justice Working Group, both of which include equal representation from the Aboriginal community-controlled sector and State Government agencies.</p> <p>The SA Government has invested approximately \$25 million over four years to deliver a multi-pronged initiative across agencies to reduce incarceration rates. This includes the Youth Aboriginal Community Court Adelaide (YACCA), a specialist therapeutic court program for Aboriginal children and young people, to be trialled for two years sitting at the Youth Court. Anecdotally, the YACCA is seeing significant improvement in the recidivism rates of participants. A formal evaluation of this initiative will occur in the second half of 2025.</p> <p>The SA Department for Correctional Services (DCS) is focussed on reducing the rate of Aboriginal incarceration (through reducing recidivism and increasing rehabilitation) including the agency's previous key strategic priority, Reducing Reoffending by 20 per cent by 2026. To address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people on remand, DCS has developed Yalakiana Tapa – Fresh/New Path, a suite of culturally responsive, community-based programs delivered by Aboriginal led organisations.</p> <p>SA is also developing an <i>Aboriginal Justice Agreement</i>, which will provide a framework for government and Aboriginal communities and organisations to work together to achieve key justice outcomes</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania participates in the <i>National Justice Policy Partnership</i>. In 2023, the Tasmanian Government created a new stream of funding for Aboriginal wellbeing supports in Tasmania Prison Service facilities.</p> <p>Outcome 10 of the draft Tasmanian Closing the Gap Plan 2025–2028 addresses Aboriginal incarceration. The Plan includes actions and initiatives aimed at diverting Aboriginal people from the criminal justice system, supporting the rehabilitation of Aboriginal prisoners and reducing rates of recidivism. Tasmania continues to work with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to improve Outcome 10 under Closing the Gap.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government has released the <i>Youth Justice Blueprint 2024–2034</i> which aims to create a youth justice system that addresses the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people. The Government has also committed to the develop an Aboriginal youth justice strategy by July 2026.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Department of Justice has commissioned an evaluation of the Return to Work Pilot that operated over the last two years in Tasmania Prison Service to provide reintegration supports to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on remand.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria is making legislative changes to reduce the overrepresentation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system including reforms aimed at reducing First Nations people's early contact with the criminal justice system and the likelihood of long-term involvement.</p> <p>The <i>Youth Justice Act 2024 (Vic)</i> provides a tiered diversionary framework which seeks to prevent or minimise formal contact with the criminal justice system, introduces a more purposeful sentencing framework that prioritises rehabilitation, and expands custodial rights to improve outcomes for children in custody.</p> <p>Under the Youth Justice Act, Victoria will also raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 12 years, by 30 September 2025. The legislation also codifies the presumption that a child under 14 years of age is incapable of criminal intent.</p> <p>The Victorian Government continues to work in partnership with First Nations communities and organisations to close the gap in justice outcomes through the fourth phase of the <i>Aboriginal Justice Agreement (AJA4)</i>. The Victorian Government and the Aboriginal Justice Caucus work together to implement and monitor AJA4 actions through the Aboriginal Justice Forum. One key initiative under AJA4 is <i>Wikara Kulpa</i>, Victoria's first Aboriginal youth justice strategy. Victoria is progressing key initiatives under <i>Wikara Kulpa</i> across its five domains: empowering young people and families; protecting and promoting culture; diversion; First Nations-led justice responses; and creating a fair and equitable justice system.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, placed-based, Aboriginal-led programs such as the <i>Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy</i>, and the Western Desert Justice Program seek to prevent offending or re-offending.</p> <p>The WA Government is committed to eliminating the gap in life outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, including commitments to reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in detention, and adults held in incarceration, under Closing the Gap. The WA Government's <i>Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2023–25</i> outlines the next phase of work required to accelerate progress against the four Priority Reform Areas and socio-economic targets of the National Agreement.</p> <p>The Department's Deputy Director General, Strategic Reform, is also WA's representative on the JPP, which brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experts, and Australian, state and territory governments to take a joined-up approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander justice policy. The JPP is focused on reducing the disproportionate rate at which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are incarcerated.</p>
138, 139	Expedite the process of the creation of the national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention	Accepts	<p>Partially implemented</p> <p>Australia is committed to continuing to implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT).</p> <p>Australia has adopted a cooperative network model of National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) implementation where NPMs are nominated at the Commonwealth, state and territory level. To support this model, the Office of the Commonwealth</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	against Torture/Strengthen implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture through the establishment of national preventive mechanisms (<i>Ukraine, Philippines</i>)		<p>Ombudsman is Australia's NPM Coordinator and undertakes a range of activities to support coordination, reporting, training, information sharing and collaboration among Commonwealth, state and territory NPMs to advance OPCAT implementation.</p> <p>Currently, six out of nine jurisdictions in Australia have nominated NPMs. The Commonwealth is continuing to work with New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria on the nomination of their respective NPMs as soon as possible. The Australian Government and state and territory governments are committed to working cooperatively and progressively towards OPCAT implementation, including to resolve ongoing funding arrangements and achieve a shared understanding of scope.</p>
174	Continue to protect civil and political rights for all persons in Australia as well as freedom of expression and freedom of religion (<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australia is founded on the rule of law and has a strong tradition of respect for the rights and freedoms of individuals. Human rights are recognised and protected across Australia through a range of laws at the federal and state and territory levels, the Australian Constitution, and the common law.</p> <p>Freedom of expression</p> <p>The Australian Government believes a strong and independent media is vital to democracy and holding governments to account and has taken a number of steps to protect press freedom and the public's right to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Privacy and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024</i> (Cth) introduced a statutory tort that allows individuals to seek redress in a court for serious invasions of their privacy. The tort provides an exemption for invasions of privacy by journalists and other individuals and entities who facilitate journalism and a mechanism for the early determination of exemptions. This exemption is consistent with the right to freedom of expression and recognises the essential role of journalism in a free, safe and democratic society. • Implementing the Australian Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (PJCIS)'s recommendations in its inquiry in 2020 into the impact of the exercise of law enforcement and intelligence powers on freedom of the press. These recommendations include requiring public interest advocates to consider warrants relating to journalists for the investigation of disclosure offences, and considering ways to harmonise shield laws that give evidentiary privileges to journalists protecting the identity of informants. • Following the <i>Review of Commonwealth Secrecy Provisions</i> in 2023, the Australian Government committed to reforms to secrecy offences to improve protections for press freedom. This includes commitments to apply a public interest journalism defence to specific secrecy offences where appropriate and to legislate requirement for ministerial consent to prosecute a journalist for certain secrecy offences. This is in addition to secrecy offences that have an existing legislated ministerial consent requirement, for example several national security-related offences and the secrecy offences in Part 5.6 of the <i>Criminal Code 1995</i> (Cth) (Criminal Code) which already require the Attorney General to give consent to prosecute. • In 2024, the Australian Government committed to further reforms to Commonwealth secrecy offences following the <i>Independent National Security Legislation Monitor's statutory review of the secrecy offences in Part 5.6 of the Criminal Code</i> (INSLM Secrecy Review). The INSLM Secrecy Review made 15 recommendations to improve the operation of secrecy offences, including recommendations about safeguards for press freedom.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 amendments to the <i>Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013</i> (Cth) improved the public sector whistle-blower scheme. • The <i>National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022</i> (Cth) introduced strong safeguards to protect the identities of journalists' sources with respect to a corruption investigation. <p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Australian governments recognise the rights of an individual to assemble and protest peacefully. This is an important right in any democracy. The rights to freedom of expression and freedom of political communication are fundamental human rights that are enjoyed by all Australians, and all people who are in Australia. However, these rights are subject to limitations that are reasonable and necessary in a free and democratic society to achieve an appropriate balance between freedom of expression and the protection of groups and individuals from offensive or harmful behaviour.</p> <p>Freedom of Religion</p> <p>Australia is a secular state. Under section 116 of the <i>Australian Constitution</i> the Commonwealth shall not make any law for establishing any religion, or for imposing any religious observance, or for prohibiting the free exercise of any religion, and no religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust under the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Most Australian states and territories prohibit discrimination on religious grounds. At the federal level, prohibitions on discrimination on religious grounds specifically in employment are found in the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth). The Australian Government has also committed to extending the federal anti-discrimination framework to ensure people are not discriminated against, and do not experience vilification, because of their religious beliefs or activities.</p> <p>Right to vote</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to supporting the franchise for all eligible Australian citizens, enabling the majority of citizens to actively participate in democratic processes and elections.</p> <p>On 27 November 2023, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM) tabled its final report into the conduct of the 2022 federal election. The terms of reference of this inquiry included the potential for measures to support enfranchisement generally, and specifically for increasing electoral participation and lifting enfranchisement of First Nations people.</p> <p>On 21 February 2025, amendments made to the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i> (Cth) came into effect. These amendments responded to the JSCEM's inquiry and contain measures to improve electoral participation, including expanding eligibility for postal and pre-poll voting, avoiding disenfranchisement of postal voters who make minor procedural errors, and reducing the administrative burden on defence personnel when voting overseas.</p> <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation</p> <p>The Australian Government supports strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander electoral participation, particularly in remote areas.</p> <p>Through the October 2022–23 Budget, the Australian Government provided \$16.1 million over two years from 2022–23 to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to increase First Nations enrolment and participation in future electoral events. In</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>the 2024–25 Budget, the Australian Government provided a further \$12.9 million over two years from 2024–25 to the AEC to extend its activities to promote Indigenous enrolment and electoral participation.</p> <p>The AEC's Indigenous Electoral Participation Program (IEPP) works with Indigenous-led organisations and other service providers to co-design and deliver electoral participation initiatives. IEPP partners lead, co-design, and champion localised, culturally appropriate engagement in their communities. This includes collaboration with the AEC on the development of programs, outreach events, and the creation and dissemination of engagement materials. As of March 2025, the IEPP is working with more than 50 organisations, located across all states and territories, to promote Indigenous electoral participation.</p> <p>In February 2023, the Australian Government introduced regulation that expanded the ability of electors to use their Medicare Cards to enrol to vote.</p> <p>In 2023–24, the Federal Direct Enrolment and Update program has enabled more Indigenous voters to enrol. Between the end of 2022 and 30 June 2024, it is estimated that over 120,000 Indigenous Australians have enrolled to vote, resulting in an estimated enrolment rate of 92.9 per cent (as at 30 June 2024).</p> <p>Prison voting</p> <p>The Commonwealth Electoral Act prohibits citizens who are serving a prison sentence of three or more years from voting during the period of their sentence, however this does not affect the voting rights of those serving shorter sentences or who have completed a longer sentence. The restriction also does not affect enrolment rights, which are preserved by section 96A of the Commonwealth Electoral Act.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Electoral Act provides for the AEC to conduct mobile polling in prisons, unless the officer in charge of the prison advises that security circumstances preclude an AEC visit. During the 2023 referendum, the AEC expanded mobile polling in prisons from five to 49 prisons and over 7,000 votes were issued.</p> <p>This is in addition to postal voting, which citizens serving a prison sentence of less than three years are automatically entitled to apply for under Schedule 2 of the Commonwealth Electoral Act. Eligible prisoners can also register as a general postal voter and have ballot papers sent to them whenever a federal election or referendum is called.</p> <p>People with disability</p> <p>The Commonwealth Electoral Act has multiple provisions that support electors with disability in casting their vote. The AEC works closely with the disability community and those in prison to ensure equity of access for voting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile polling for those unable to access polling places, including for those in aged care, mental health facilities, disability housing, and prisons. • Assistance at polling places if a voter is unable to vote without assistance, including assistive technologies such as text-to-speech pens, hearing loops and a virtual Auslan interpreter service. • A telephone voting service for electors who are blind or have low vision, over 2,200 of whom used this service in the 2023 referendum.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election information in various formats including Braille, Auslan and Easy Read. <p>On 21 February 2025, amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act came into effect to align its terminology with contemporary understandings of cognitive impairment, and to expand eligibility for pre-poll and postal voting to include people with disability and their careers.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds.
181	Put an end to the violation of freedom of peaceful assembly and the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials (<i>Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Australian governments recognise the rights of an individual to assemble and protest peacefully. This is an important right in any democracy. The rights to freedom of expression and freedom of political communication are fundamental human rights that are enjoyed by all Australians, and all people who are in Australia. However, these rights are subject to limitations that are reasonable and necessary in a free and democratic society to achieve an appropriate balance between freedom of expression and the protection of groups and individuals from offensive or harmful behaviour.</p> <p>See recommendation 174, freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, religion, and the right to vote.</p>
184	Ensure effective implementation frameworks for combating forced labour and slavery related to the activities of Australian companies (<i>Syrian Arab Republic</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery.</p> <p>The Australian Government expects businesses to respect human rights and act in accordance with the principles and standards set out in various international normative frameworks including the <i>UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</i> (UNGPs) and the <i>OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct</i> (OECD Guidelines). These frameworks also promote the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour.</p> <p>Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct</p> <p>The Australian National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (AusNCP) promotes responsible business conduct standards under the OECD Guidelines and the related OECD due diligence guidance.</p> <p>The OECD Guidelines are the most comprehensive set of international standards to guide responsible business conduct in relation to human rights, labour rights, environment, bribery, consumer interests, information disclosure, science and technology, competition, and taxation. The OECD Guidelines are consistent with the UNGPs and provide mutually reinforcing frameworks.</p> <p>In June 2023, the OECD Guidelines were updated to reflect contemporary responsible business conduct developments particularly in relation to climate change and use of technology.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The AusNCP also provides a non-judicial grievance mechanism to help resolve complaints against multinational enterprises operating in Australia, and Australian multinationals operating overseas, regarding alleged breaches of responsible business conduct standards.</p> <p>In April 2024, following public consultation, AusNCP published its updated AusNCP Complaint handling procedures, which include new material to explain the importance of good faith engagement, how complaints are assessed and features to provide an accessible, impartial and predictable service.</p> <p>UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Australia co-sponsored the resolution that adopted the UNGPs in 2011 and has supported them since their adoption. Australia is also an adherent to the OECD Guidelines which serve to reinforce the UNGPs.</p> <p>The Australian Government expects businesses to respect human rights and act in accordance with the principles and standards set out in various international (non-legal) normative frameworks including the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct.</p> <p>Certain large businesses operating in Australia also have obligations under the <i>Modern Slavery Act 2018</i> (Cth).</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery.
185	Maintain its commitment in fighting human trafficking and reducing violence against women (<i>Bahrain</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery.
186	Continue working with regional partners and support countries in addressing the growing challenges of trafficking in persons (<i>Bhutan</i>);	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Regional efforts to combat modern slavery</p> <p>Australia continues its strong actions that address modern slavery, including human trafficking, not only at regional but also bilateral and international levels.</p> <p>Australia's international advocacy in multilateral forums is led by the Ambassador to Counter Modern Slavery, People Smuggling and Human Trafficking. At the regional level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia and Indonesia co-chair the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia provides targeted investments such as the ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking program, the UNODC Pacific Islands Transnational Organized Crime Programme; and the delivery of capacity-building at regional and country. • Australia supports safe labour migration to protect the rights of migrant workers and reduce their vulnerability to trafficking through the TRIANGLE in ASEAN program, which helps strengthen regional cooperation through the ASEAN Committee on Migrant Workers. TRIANGLE in ASEAN also promotes ethical recruitment practices, provides legal aid and information services to prevent exploitation. • Australia's development assistance programs aim to address drivers such as poverty, gender inequality and lack of access to education, and include programs that increase resilience and strengthen responses to modern slavery. <p>In June 2023, Australia was appointed to the Asia-Pacific regional government member seat (2023-2026) in Alliance 8.7's Global Coordinating Group, a global initiative to combat forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour. Australia supports Pathfinder countries in the region – Sri Lanka, Nepal, Fiji, Samoa, Vietnam – in their endeavours to address modern slavery.</p>
187	Guarantee access to federal support services for victims of human trafficking and take all necessary measures to eradicate this practice (<i>France</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery. The Australian Government committed \$24.3 million over four years (from 2023–24) to enhance the support provided to victims and survivors of human trafficking.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery.
188	Complete and implement the National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery (<i>Greece</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery.</p> <p>See recommendations 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery</p>
189	Further enhance cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) through the ASEAN-Australia human rights trafficking framework, in the fight against human trafficking and slavery in the region (<i>Lao People's Democratic Republic</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Australia continues its strong actions that address modern slavery, including human trafficking, not only at regional but also bilateral and international levels.</p> <p>See recommendation 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
190	Continue efforts made to combat human trafficking, especially with the adoption of the Modern Slavery Act of 2018 (<i>Lebanon</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery.</p> <p>See recommendations 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery</p>
191	Sustain efforts in combating human trafficking and ensuring the protection of the rights of victims, as well as the rights of migrants (<i>Nigeria</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery. The Australian Government committed \$24.3 million over four years (from 2023–24) to enhance the support provided to victims and survivors of human trafficking.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, ratify the ILO Protocols • 69, exploitation of migrant workers • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers.
192	Exert more efforts to assist victims of human trafficking, protect them, and expand the support provided to them to include all victims of trafficking without discrimination (<i>Qatar</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Support and protection</u></p> <p><u>Support services for victims of human trafficking</u></p> <p>Providing holistic and tailored support and protection that meets the needs of victims and survivors of modern slavery is a national strategic priority under the <i>National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25</i> (National Action Plan).</p> <p>The National Action Plan includes a continued commitment to supporting victim-survivors, including through a number of action items to raise awareness, improve identification of victims and build capacity of frontline responders.</p> <p>Government-funded Support for Trafficked People Program (STPP) assists victims and survivors in meeting their safety, security, health and well-being needs. The STTP provides tailored support to suspected victims and survivors, and is delivered nationally by the Australian Red Cross. Clients may be supported to access suitable accommodation, medical treatment and counselling, legal and migration advice, training, and social and financial support. It also helps develop options for life after victims and survivors leave the STPP. The Australian Government committed \$24.3 million over four years from 2023–24 to enhance support provided under the STPP, including</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the minimum length of time people can receive support without engaging in a criminal justice process. • Providing additional types of support for victim-survivors with dependents. • Increasing financial assistance for visa holders not able to access social welfare payments. • Introducing post exit check-ins with a caseworker at 3, 6, and 12 months after leaving the program. • Introducing an additional referral pathway pilot which commenced in July 2024, to allow eligible victims and survivors to access the STPP and the Forced Marriage Specialist Support Program (FMSSP) without engaging with law enforcement. This recognises some victims and survivors of modern slavery may not feel comfortable engaging with law enforcement and might feel more comfortable to reach out for support with a community service provider. <p>The Australian Government-funded FMSSP provides tailored case management support to people who are at risk of, or who have experienced, forced marriage. The Australian Government committed \$12.1 million to establish the program, which commenced nationally in January 2025. The FMSSP provides non-time-limited, individualised and culturally-responsive needs-based prevention and early intervention support to meet the health, wellbeing, physical and social needs of clients, including access to counselling and emergency accommodation. People at risk of, or who have experienced, forced marriage can access the FMSSP without having to engage with law enforcement.</p> <p>Additional support for people in or at risk of modern slavery is delivered by civil society organisations with Australian Government grant funding. The Australian Government provided \$4.4 million in grant funding under the National Action Plan and has committed a further \$1 million in 2025–26. The Australian Government also committed approximately \$0.96 million over 2022–2026 to the My Blue Sky website and national service on forced marriage prevention and support.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions' Witness Assistance Service provides a range of information and support services to victims and survivors, such as updates on the prosecution, explanations of processes, court familiarisation tours, support during meetings / trials, and referrals to counselling and other services.</p> <p><u>Australia's Human Trafficking Visa Framework</u></p> <p>Australia's Human Trafficking Visa Framework allows foreign nationals (and their family members) who do not already hold a valid visa and are suspected victims of modern slavery, to remain lawfully in Australia to participate in the STPP and criminal justice processes.</p> <p><u>Compensation and remedies</u></p> <p>All states and territories have victims of crime compensation schemes, which may be available to victims and survivors of modern slavery. Under the National Action Plan, the Australian Government has completed an overview of state and territory victims of crime financial assistance schemes and their availability to victims and survivors of modern slavery. Under the <i>Crimes Act 1914</i> (Cth), a person convicted of a federal offence can be ordered by the Court to pay reparations for any loss suffered or expense incurred by reason of the offence.</p> <p>The Australian Government also provides victims and survivors of modern slavery with access to civil mechanisms, such as the Fair Work Ombudsman and Fair Work Commission, and with the ability to pursue civil and administrative remedies, including for unpaid wages and entitlements, irrespective of their nationality or visa status.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Survivor engagement</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has partnered with the Salvation Army through grant funded projects to establish the Lived Experience Engagement Program (LEEP). The LEEP created the pilot Survivor Advisory Council, as a forum for people with lived experience of modern slavery to engage directly with Government and has contributed to legislative reviews, awareness and training initiatives, policy consideration of remediation and practical support, and survivor engagement and empowerment.</p> <p>The Australian Government worked closely with international and domestic survivors of modern slavery, and expert stakeholders, in developing a foundational guidance document to support safe, ethical and trauma-informed engagement and empowerment of people with lived experience of modern slavery in Australia. Engagement and support for victims and survivors of modern slavery are also among the core functions of the Anti-Slavery Commissioner.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery.
193, 194	Continue efforts to eradicate labour/human trafficking, exploitation and slavery (Romania, Rwanda)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Legislation</p> <p><u>Criminal Code</u></p> <p>Australia comprehensively criminalises trafficking in persons, slavery and slavery-like practices, including servitude, forced labour, deceptive recruiting, debt bondage and forced marriage, collectively referred to as ‘modern slavery’, in Divisions 270 and 271 of the <i>Criminal Code 1995</i> (Cth), with penalties of up to 25 years’ imprisonment. Australia’s modern slavery offences have universal or extended geographical jurisdiction.</p> <p>In August 2023, the Australian Government published the findings report of its targeted review of modern slavery offences. The Australian Government has agreed to develop potential legislative reforms that respond to key findings from the targeted review, and commenced targeted consultations around streamlining and simplifying offences and enhancing guidance to practitioners.</p> <p><u>Modern Slavery Act</u></p> <p>The <i>Modern Slavery Act 2018</i> (Cth) complements Australia’s criminal justice response. It provides a transparency framework that aims to drive business and government action to assess and address modern slavery risks in global supply chains and operations. The Modern Slavery Act requires businesses based, or operating, in Australia with over \$100 million in annual consolidated revenue to submit an annual modern slavery statement (statement), highlighting and addressing modern slavery risks in their operations and supply chains to the Australian Government’s online Modern Slavery Statements Register.</p> <p>Under the Modern Slavery Act, the Australian Government also produces an annual statement outlining its efforts to assess and address modern slavery risks across all non-corporate Commonwealth entities. During the reporting period, the Australian Government has published three further Commonwealth Modern Slavery Statements under the Modern Slavery</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Act, and has separately commenced a review of Commonwealth procurement procedures and supply chains for modern slavery risks.</p> <p>To date, over 13,000 statements have been published on the Register, covering entities headquartered in 63 countries. In addition, there have been more than 5.1 million searches of the Register, reflecting the significant public interest in the transparency objectives of the Modern Slavery Act.</p> <p>In May 2023, the Australian Government tabled a report on the independent statutory review of the Modern Slavery Act, which reviewed its first three years of operation. The review was informed by an extensive public consultation process, involving 38 targeted consultations with 285 government and non-government organisations, including from business, civil society and academia.</p> <p>In December 2024, the Australian Government released its response to the review, which agreed (in full, in part, or in principle) to 25 of the 30 recommendations and noted 5 recommendations.</p> <p>The Australian Government's response sets out its steps towards a strengthened Modern Slavery Act. The Australian Government will conduct a range of targeted and public consultations (commencing as soon as practicable in 2025) to develop potential legislative reforms for Government decision</p> <p>Law enforcement response</p> <p>The Australian Federal Police (AFP) leads investigation of suspected cases of modern slavery, with dedicated teams in three major cities and trained officers in regional commands and overseas posts. The AFP's victim-centred approach considers disruption and intervention activities, which remove victims and survivors from harm, as important as successful prosecution outcomes. The AFP works collaboratively with state and territory policing partners under the National Policing Protocol to Combat Modern Slavery.</p> <p>National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery</p> <p>The <i>National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25</i> (National Action Plan) provides the strategic framework for Australia's whole-of-government response to modern slavery. The National Action Plan commits to 46 action items under five strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent • disrupt, investigate and prosecute • support and protect • partner • research. <p>Twenty-nine of the 46 action items have been completed, and the remaining 17 are in progress and on track for implementation. The Australian Institute of Criminology leads monitoring and evaluation of the National Action Plan.</p> <p>Forced marriage</p> <p>Australia recognises forced marriage as a slavery like-practice and a form of gender-based violence, with complex social, family and cultural dimensions. The Australian Government is working with state and territory governments to tackle the</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>issue of forced marriage through a coordinated national approach. In 2024, the Australian Government, in partnership with all state and territory governments, conducted nationwide consultations to inform the development of enhanced civil protections and remedies for people in or at risk of forced marriage.</p> <p>Anti-Slavery Commissioner</p> <p>Australia's inaugural Australian Anti-Slavery Commissioner was appointed in November 2024 through a merit-based selection process. The Australian Anti-Slavery Commissioner is an independent statutory office holder established under the Modern Slavery Act. The Anti-Slavery Commissioner will further strengthen the work undertaken across government, business and civil society to prevent and respond to modern slavery by supporting victims and survivors, raising community awareness and helping business address the risk of modern slavery practices in their operations and supply chains.</p> <p>In the 2023–24 Budget, Government committed \$8 million over four years and \$2 million each year thereafter to establish and support the Commissioner.</p> <p>Partnerships and awareness-raising</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to tackling modern slavery at home and abroad and prioritises prevention, including by raising awareness of modern slavery and its indicators in regions and sectors of the community most at risk, using culturally appropriate approaches.</p> <p>The Australian Government, working closely with key civil society, partners, delivered social media campaigns aligned with World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. These campaigns, delivered nationwide and online, raised public awareness of human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery, including how to recognise the indicators of these crimes and seek help.</p> <p>The Australian Government launched the Modern Slavery in Australia website in 2024, which brings together authoritative, factual and practical information on modern slavery in Australia, including information on Australia's modern slavery laws and policies, guidance, training and resources. The website is available in 249 languages.</p> <p>The AFP uses multiple media platforms to raise awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery offences, and how to report a suspected offence. The AFP's Look a Little Deeper Program, adopted by sixteen government agencies, including every state and territory police force in Australia, is an information and awareness program for frontline police and other government agencies, with a strong focus on indicators.</p> <p>The Ambassador to Counter Modern Slavery, People Smuggling and Human Trafficking drives Australia's international engagement to counter human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery. The Ambassador works with Australia's partners in the region to strengthen responses to modern slavery.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
195-198, 210	Promote equal pay and reduce the gender wage gap (<i>Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, India, Maldives, Lesotho</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented—ongoing</p> <p>In Australia, employers must pay all employees equally for work of equal or comparable value.</p> <p>Australia introduced reforms to put gender equality at the centre of the workplace relations system including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making gender equality and job security an object of the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth). • Guiding how the Fair Work Commission considers equal remuneration and work value cases. • Requiring the Fair Work Commission to consider gender equality, when setting modern awards conditions and minimum wages. • Establishing Expert Panels for pay equity and the Care and Community Sector, ensuring the Fair Work Commission has expertise needed when considering pay equity or care and community sector matters. • Expanding bargaining systems to low-paid, female-dominated sectors. • Prohibiting pay secrecy clauses in employment contracts. <p>The <i>Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022</i> (Cth) amendments to the Fair Work Act require the Fair Work Commission to consider gender as a criterion to delivering pay increases. Reform examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2022–23, the Fair Work Commission increased the national minimum wage by 8.6 per cent to benefit low paid workers (more likely to be women). • Increased the award wage for more than 250,000 aged care sector employees, historically undervalued because of assumptions based on gender, by up to 28.5 per cent. <p>The gender pay gap for average weekly earnings of full-time adult employees has decreased from 14.0 per cent in May 2020 to 11.5 per cent in May 2025.</p> <p>Australia has improved transparency and reporting on gender pay gaps including amendments to the <i>Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012</i> (Cth) to require federal public sector organisations, in addition to non-public sector employers, to report annually on gender equality indicators and enhance information sharing. The <i>Workplace Gender Equality Amendment (Setting Gender Equality Targets) Act 2025</i> commenced on 4 April 2025. This requires large employers with 500 or more employees to select, commit to achieve and report on gender equality targets in a three-year cycle to the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA). The implementation of the targets scheme will support closing the gender pay gap by encouraging more gender equal practices and commitments within organisations.</p> <p>The <i>Workplace Gender Equality Procurement Principles</i> require employers, generally those with 100 or more employees, to be compliant with the Workplace Gender Equality Act if they are to be considered for Government procurements at or above \$80,000 and \$7.5 million or above for construction services. Employers must, report to WGEA on performance against Gender Equality Indicators, and report this performance to employees, shareholders and governing bodies. Employers with 500 or more employees are also required to have policies and strategies against six key gender equality indicators and from 2026 will need to meet the requirements of the gender equality targets scheme to be compliant with the Act.</p> <p>In addition, the Australian Government is also funding working women’s centres in every Australian state and territory to provide information, advocacy, advice and assistance to women who are experiencing sexual harassment, discrimination and</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>other workplace issues, and a new National Body to facilitate collaboration and coordination of services (\$37.6 million over 4 years from 2023-24, with \$8 million per year ongoing from 2027–28).</p> <p>Working women’s centres are accessible to women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, women in regional, rural and remote areas, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, women with a disability, women under the age of 25, people who identify as women, and women who are experiencing mental health concerns or family violence.</p>
199	<p>Ensure that cashless debit and income management schemes are non-discriminatory in design and implementation, particularly for indigenous populations (<i>Bahamas</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government passed legislation to abolish the Cashless Debit Card in September 2022 and all participants moved off the program by 6 March 2023.</p>
202	<p>Overcome shortcomings in health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas or in special care centres, and adopt effective measures to combat the isolation of children from their families and their placement in unqualified care centres (<i>Egypt</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to furthering the rights of children and ensuring children in Australia can reach their full potential. Australian governments have devoted significant resources to policies and programs related to education, health (including mental health) and child safety.</p> <p><u>Children and young people</u></p> <p>The <i>National Action Plan for the Health of Children and Young People 2020–2030</i> identifies priority populations which are especially prone to health inequity as a result of social, geographical and other determinants, including children and young people from rural and remote areas, children and young people living with disability and children and young people living in out of home care. The Action Plan calls for focused health policy design, education and service delivery concentrated on the particular needs and circumstances of these priority groups.</p> <p><u>People with disabilities</u></p> <p>Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (ADS) is Australia’s overarching framework to drive action to improve outcomes for all people with disability. ADS sets out seven Outcome Areas to improve the lives of people with disability, including health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The <i>National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability</i> addresses serious health inequities faced by people with intellectual disability. This roadmap is an associated plan under ADS.</p> <p><u>States and territories</u></p> <p>All states and territories are committed to health of children with disabilities, including those living in rural or remote areas.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government has committed to the <i>ACT Disability Health Strategy 2024–2033</i>, which is a 10-year plan that ensures equitable, appropriate, and supported access to healthcare for people with disability of all ages.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u> In NSW, the NSW <i>Youth Health Framework 2017–2024</i> and NSW Health <i>Disability Inclusion Action Plan</i> promote access to timely, equitable and appropriate healthcare for young people with complex needs, including those with disability.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u> In the NT, the National Child Protection Strategy is implemented through <i>the Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021–2031</i> (Safe and Supported) and the NT's 10-Year Generational Strategy. In addition, the NT Government funds the Mental and Allied Health Specialist Services which provides children and young people in out of home care.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u> In Queensland, the <i>Disability Plan 2022–2027</i> provides policy on health services to ensure they have the capabilities to meet the needs of people with disability.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u> In SA, the 10-year Women's Child and Youth Health Plan that aims to improve access to timely and appropriate care and health outcomes for young people in SA.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u> The Tasmanian Government continues to invest in healthcare for children through key initiatives such as the Tasmanian Community Paediatric Service, which provides paediatric medical and short-term allied healthcare to children across Tasmania who experience social vulnerability. The Tasmanian Government works with St Giles, which provides community Allied Health paediatric services, including allied health assessments and interventions for children and young people presenting with developmental difficulties, delays, or disorders which impact on their development, function and participation.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u> In Victoria, <i>Inclusive Victoria: State disability plan (2022–2026)</i> focuses on strengthening the capacity of families with children with disability to improve the health, safety and development of their children through targeted and coordinated whole-of-family support.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u> WA's Health Navigator pilot program is a collaboration between Communities and the Department of Health which assists children in out-of-home care to navigate health services and strengthen continuity of care through co-location of services. Through WA's commitment to Safe and Supported, the Department of Communities is progressing work which aims to sustainably improve outcomes and experiences for children, parents and carers with disability or developmental delay who are at risk of, or are involved with the WA child protection system, including children and young people who are in out-of-home care, and leaving care. See also recommendation 203, health services in the rural and remote areas.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
203	Continue its efforts to provide health services in the rural and remote areas, especially in light of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic (Libya)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is strategically investing in the development of a robust and future-ready health workforce to enhance the health and wellbeing of all Australians. This includes targeted initiatives to improve workforce quality, optimise distribution, and strengthen planning capabilities. These efforts are designed to ensure a sustainable, well-coordinated health workforce that is responsive to evolving community needs and capable of delivering equitable care across all regions.</p> <p>From 2026, there will be a targeted investment over four years to increase capacity across the training pathway, improve incentives to begin a career in general practice, and remove barriers often faced by junior doctors who wish to pursue GP training. This will deliver around 2,900 additional GPs and trainees by 2033, as well as support nurses and midwives to extend their skills and qualifications.</p> <p>The Australian Government is building a stronger Medicare, relieving pressure on the hospital system, making it easier for people to see a primary care health provider, and easing cost-of-living pressures for people living in regional, rural and remote Australia. It has committed to expanding the Single Employer Model (SEM) trials for general practitioner (GP) registrars (doctors training to become specialist GPs) in regional, rural and remote locations across Australia, helping to provide a sustainable pathway to increase the number of GPs and services in those locations. There are currently nine SEM trials in operation with a 10th expected to commence in late 2025. A comprehensive three-year evaluation of the SEM trials will assess impacts and effectiveness of the trials. Outcomes of the evaluation are expected in early 2028.</p> <p>In responding to the unique needs of places, the role of Primary Health Networks has been enhanced to commission multidisciplinary care providers for communities served by smaller practices, including culturally and linguistically diverse, and rural and remote communities. In addition, the development and implementation of a comprehensive response to thin markets (initially in 10 locations) will address significant market gaps in regional, rural and remote settings.</p> <p>Workforce accommodation will also be provided to enable delivery of Better Renal Services for First Nations people at treatment units in regional Australia. To help increase access to health services, the Australian Government is expanding support for innovative multidisciplinary models of care. This is further supported by additional investments in health scholarship and training programs to build the pipeline of nurses, midwives and nurse practitioners to improve access to healthcare in critically under-serviced communities, including across regional, rural and remote Australia.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In 2023, the NSW State Health Services Functional Area Coordinator was appointed to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from pandemic and other threats to population health (e.g. droughts, bushfires and floods). The debrief report, <i>As one system: The NSW Health system's response to COVID-19</i>, was published in 2023 and NSW has committed to publicly reporting on progress of the 59 recommendations and actions in the report in November 2023 and 2024.</p> <p>The NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032 outlines the long-term strategy to strengthen healthcare in regional, rural and remote areas in NSW. The plan includes a strong focus on improving health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in rural and regional areas in line with the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i>.</p>

		<p>In the 2023–24 Budget, NSW Government has committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$438.6 million to recruit 500 more paramedics in regional areas. • Doubling the Rural Workforce Incentives package from up to \$10,000 to up to \$20,000, to recruit and retain health staff in regional areas. • \$97 million for 2,000 new annual scholarships for health professionals, with over half to be in regional areas. <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In 2024, the NT Government set up a Remote Health and Primary Care Branch to coordinate development of new models of care responding to the workforce pressures and new models of care that have eventuated from COVID reform.</p> <p>NT Health continues to partner with Aboriginal medical and health services to transition health services to community control and ensure that funding of primary care in the NT is strengthened through renewed commissioning practices and understanding of the current funding complexity of remote Aboriginal Primary Care.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, range of initiatives and programs continue as part of public hospital and health care service delivery, including: rural and remote workforce accommodation; construction and delivery of the Cooktown Multipurpose Health Service facility, Cairns Health and Innovation Centre; efforts to address inequity in health and wellbeing outcomes with First Nations Queenslanders, including strengthening and empowering the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Community-Controlled Health Sector; and support for Queensland’s aeromedical providers to deliver specialist retrieval doctors, and emergency helicopter services.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA Health has six Local Health Networks covering rural, regional and remote SA. Each has tailored strategic and operational plans designed to address the specific health needs of the communities they serve.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government is strengthening the delivery of health services to rural and remote areas under its <i>Long-Term Plan for Healthcare in Tasmania 2040</i> and continues to expand its suite of virtual care programs.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government is also delivering key initiatives to attract and retain General Practitioners (GPs) to rural and remote communities in Tasmania.</p> <p>In addition, the Tasmanian Government is strengthening rural health services and local place-based approaches through programs such as: a rapid response GP team; a state-wide virtual care service; a place-based approach to identify and address barriers to local healthcare access across North and North West Tasmania.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In addition to the funding provided to deliver health in the regions, the 2023–24 WA Budget included specific investments in spending on regional health and mental health initiatives and WA Health’s regional workforce.</p> <p>WA has invested significantly in virtual care services to support rural and remote communities through WA including 24/7 access to emergency and inpatient telehealth, specialist clinical advice, and advanced patient monitoring and the coordination timely transfers to and from country and metropolitan hospitals. To further support its communities, WA has</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			recently expanded the provision of virtual services to include remote closed-circuit television monitoring of high-risk sites, to enhance staff and patient safety.
204	Ensure that education curricula include components on indigenous peoples' history and the impact of colonization (<i>State of Palestine</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>The Australian Curriculum's <i>Cross-Curriculum Priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures</i> provides First Nations students with the ability to see themselves, their identities and cultures reflected in the curriculum; and allows all students to engage in reconciliation, respect and recognition of the world's oldest continuous living cultures.</p>
205, 206	Provide awareness raising and education on human rights, especially the rights of persons with disabilities, refugees and migrants, for law enforcement officers, migration officials and those working in the justice sector (<i>Algeria</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented - ongoing</p> <p>Human rights education is a key component of training and continuing development for law enforcement officers at the federal, state and territory levels. Law enforcement officers are trained about human rights through specific modules. Human rights principles are also embedded through compulsory and optional training, diversity and inclusion policies, and relevant laws.</p> <p><u>Australian Federal Police (AFP)</u></p> <p>The AFP provides diversity, inclusion and cultural awareness education to all members in a self-paced learning environment as well as various workshops focusing on respectful workplace behaviours. The AFP also have Standard Operating Procedures and a practice guide which set out the procedures for interviews with children and intellectually impaired adults who are victims of sexual or violent offences.</p> <p>Since Australia's third UPR, the AFP has delivered the National Interviewing Vulnerable Persons Program (NIVPP) to participants. This program develops crucial investigator skillsets and is delivered under a trauma informed approach, with an emphasis placed on the well-being of all relevant parties involved in the judicial process. The NIVPP explores various factors that may create and/or contribute to persons being considered vulnerable, including (but are not limited to); age, gender and identity, culture and ethnicity, language, disability, capacity, mental illness/disorders, trauma, abuse, time, personal relationships, environments, grooming behaviours, other harmful behaviours, and the type of offending/ offences.</p> <p>The AFP's Look a Little Deeper Program is a modern slavery information and awareness program for frontline police and other government agencies. The program recognises that first responders are likely to encounter indicators of human trafficking and slavery in the course of their day-to-day duties and aims to equip them to respond effectively, enhance victim's safety and ensure that the victim is provided with the appropriate victim and/or law enforcement support. Sixteen government agencies have adopted the program, including every state and territory police force in Australia.</p> <p><u>Immigration</u></p> <p>International Obligations training is provided to officers in immigration detention roles and staff receive training on refugee law, complementary protection and Australia's non-refoulement obligations where it is relevant to their roles. Training is regularly reviewed for currency and is provided when staff initially commence in the relevant roles, or as refresher training.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Australian Government has contracted appropriately trained and experienced service providers to ensure immigration detainees' needs are adequately met. The Department of Home Affairs welcomes engagement and oversight to enable further transparency in the operations of immigration detention.</p> <p>The Australian Government also invests a significant amount of resources to provide high quality facilities, amenities and a broad range of services and activities within the immigration detention network in order to ensure safety and security for detainees and staff.</p> <p>Additionally, to combat human trafficking and modern slavery, where relevant, staff are educated with the knowledge and tools on how to identify human trafficking indicators and refer potential victims of human trafficking or modern slavery to the AFP for investigation.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government is committed to providing human rights training to public authorities in the ACT. In 2024 the ACT Government's human rights team provided training for decision-makers across the ACT Government to improve their human rights-based approach to policy development and decision-making processes.</p> <p>The <i>ACT Disability Justice Strategy (2019–2029)</i> aims to ensure that people within the ACT have equal access to justice and equality before the law. The <i>Inclusion Act 2024 (ACT)</i> supports the progression of Disability Inclusion Planning across all services, including the Justice sector. Implementation of the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) <i>Disability Action and Inclusion Plan 2024-2026 (DAIP)</i> aligns with the ACT Disability Justice Strategy. Disability awareness training is a mandatory training module for all ACTCS staff.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW Police Force (NSWPF) delivers human rights training to all members of the NSWPF and students of policing. It also delivers specialised training on human trafficking and modern slavery to all members and detectives, including through the AFP's 'Look a Little Deeper: Human Trafficking and Slavery' resource and Judicial Commission of NSW's 'Modern Slavery: a guide for NSW judicial officers'.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>Respect, Equity and Diversity Training is mandatory for all NT Police staff. Staff are also required to undertake a refresher after every two years. Awareness and education on dealing with people with disability, refugees, migrants and first nations persons is embedded throughout recruit training programs and in-service training. The Multicultural Affairs Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs provides high level, strategic advice on matters pertaining to multicultural affairs.</p> <p>The NT Government is currently developing training programs including domestic, family and sexual violence training and Anti-racism training.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Police Service provides training for police officers about responding to and interacting with people with a disability, including persons with a cognitive or psychiatric impairment. The training raises awareness of disability and,</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>consistent with police practice, focuses on de-escalation. The Queensland Police Service also offers training to police officers to assess and provide the proper care of persons in police custody, including post-arrest care and illness or injury management.</p> <p>The Queensland Human Rights Commission offers a number of training courses for the public sector. The Human Rights Unit in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General also delivers free training sessions which are designed to help policy officers across government to assess the impacts of policy and legislation on human rights in their area of work.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA provides foundation training to new employees entering SA Police at cadet level. This includes complex communication (disability or cultural and linguistic diversity impact) and training from the SAPOL Psychology Section on intellectual impairment.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania Police is committed to promoting safe communities, homes and roads. In pursuing these strategic priorities, members participate in awareness-raising training on the rights and special needs of people with disability, refugees and migrants. The service also runs programmes to improve relations between police and children, schools and community groups.</p> <p>Equal Opportunity Tasmania (EOT), Tasmania Police and the Migrant Resource Centre collaborated to create a tailored Report it! form. The form has been updated so that people can provide additional details about an incident, as well as request a referral to Tasmania Police where an allegation of a hate crime is made. In 2022–2023 EOT provided a number of information sessions to Tasmania Police recruits. These sessions are an overview of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (Tas)</i> and explain how EOT and Tasmania Police can work together.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p><i>Victoria's anti-racism strategy 2024–29</i> identifies initiatives to reduce racism and discrimination in policing as a key area for action, including to challenge internal biases and the unequal use of discretion in policing to address the disproportionate impacts this has on First Nations peoples, multicultural, and multifaith groups.</p> <p>To address identified issues of racism in the criminal justice system, a suite of cultural and unconscious bias awareness training is provided to the criminal justice workforce.</p> <p>Victoria's Yoorrook Justice Commission, the first formal truth-telling process in Australia, recommended the capability, competence and support for human rights and cultural safety training be upscaled within criminal justice systems in its report, <i>Yoorrook for Justice</i>, published in 2023. Relevant Victorian agencies have been undertaking review and revision of their training programs to ensure that they adequately cover human and cultural rights obligations.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Police Force will shortly launch the new Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Plan, which will incorporate the WA Police Force equal Employment, Disability access and multicultural actions and commitments. The WA Police Force created the</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><i>Multicultural Action Plan 2023–2025</i> adhering to the Western Australian Multicultural Police Framework and focusing culturally and linguistically diverse communities.</p> <p>The WA Police Academy delivers a training package titled Seeing the Person to help our recruits develop a deeper understanding of diversity within society and how to apply this knowledge in their policing practices. The WA Police Force now refers its police officers across the State to the <i>ANZPAA Religious and Spiritual Guide</i>, which provides significant cultural awareness and engagement information and guidance.</p> <p>The <i>Nelson Mandela Rules</i> and the revised version of the <i>United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners</i> underpin all <i>Commissioners Operating Policies and Procedures (COPPs)</i> and custodial training. The COPPs set out the minimum standards as to how all prisoners should be treated - which is with respect and dignity. WA is committed to building and strengthening Corrective Services staff knowledge related to the overall observance of human rights as they play an essential role in ensuring that the human rights of those who have been deprived of their liberty are respected and upheld. Awareness is provided to staff through diversity mediums including WA's <i>Justice Disability Framework, Disability Access and Inclusion Plan</i> and disability awareness training.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 121, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in public places of detention including strip searches • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system.
208	Develop policies to strengthen the promotion and protection of the rights of women, especially women from indigenous communities (<i>Barbados</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented - ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to gender equality and putting gender equality at the heart of policy and decision-making. Australian governments have taken significant steps to achieving gender equality with a focus on ending gender-based violence, valuing unpaid and paid care, increasing economic equality and security, and increasing leadership, representation and decision-making.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 125, the needs of women in prison, sexual violence against women in detention • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 195–198, 210, equal pay and reduce the gender wage gap • 209, discrimination against women and girls • 212, increasing the participation of women in public and political life • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
209	Continue taking necessary measures to combat discriminatory practices against women and girls (<i>India</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to gender equality and putting gender equality at the heart of policy and decision-making. Australian governments have taken significant steps to achieving gender equality with a focus on ending gender-based violence, valuing unpaid and paid care, increasing economic equality and security, and increasing leadership, representation and decision-making.</p> <p>All jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 66, combat discrimination against women, children and persons with disabilities • 212, increasing the participation of women in public and political life.
212	Take special measures aimed at increasing the participation of women in public and political life (<i>Serbia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Participation of women in public and political life</p> <p>There have been improvements in women’s representation in Australia’s political and public life, and key leadership roles over recent decades, particularly at all levels of government.</p> <p><u>Representation of women in political life</u></p> <p>Women represent 49.8 per cent of the 48th Australian Parliament (as of September 2025). The Cabinet, currently consisting of 23 Ministers, comprises 12 women (52.2 per cent) which is the highest number in Cabinet in Australia’s history. Out of a total of 42 total Ministers, 19 (45.2 per cent) are women.</p> <p>The Australian Government has provided funding until 2027 to Women for Election Australia to build and support a pipeline of diverse women to prepare for, and enter, public office at all levels of government. The non-partisan project aims to increase the number and diversity of women running for public office and getting elected, and encourages the participation of women from politically under-represented communities.</p> <p><u>Representation of women on Government boards</u></p> <p>In the 2023-24 reporting year, the Australian Government renewed targets for gender balance on Australian Government boards: 50 per cent representation of women at a whole of-Government level, and at least 40 per cent representation of women at the individual board level. The Australian Government also strengthened its commitments to achieving and maintaining gender balance on Australian Government boards by agreeing to 2 additional targets: women to hold 50 per cent of positions at the portfolio level and 50 per cent of Chair and Deputy Chair positions on Australian Government boards at the portfolio level.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>At 30 June 2024, women held a record high of 54.4 per cent of Australian Government board positions, exceeding the target for 50 per cent of women represented on all boards for the third consecutive year. 78.4 per cent of Australian Government boards met the target of women holding at least 40 per cent of positions at the individual board level. Women also held 45.3 per cent of Chair and Deputy Chair positions on Australian Government boards.</p> <p><u>Recognition of women in public life</u></p> <p>The Australian Government published communications ‘#NominateAWoman’ in August 2023 which encourages the public to nominate the Order of Australia particularly where women were previously underrepresented. The initial campaign focused on women in sports and reached 550,385 people (August 2023). A second campaign was then launched in 2024 with a focus on aviation. In the January 2025 Australia Day Order of Australia Awards List, women received 46.8 per cent of awards in the General Division, and 50.0 per cent of the Companion of the Order awards, which are the highest award.</p> <p>In previous years, the Order of Australia General Division achieved gender balance in three consecutive awards – 2023 King’s Birthday Honours, 2024 Australia Day Awards and 2024 King’s Birthday Honours. However, in 2025, the overall representation of women decreased, with women receiving 40.1 per cent of awards across the Australia Day and King’s Birthday Honours Lists.</p> <p>See also recommendation 67, gender equality in law and in practice.</p>
219	Continue its efforts to reduce violence against women and children and the disparity in economic, health and education outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians (<i>Lao People’s Democratic Republic</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a country free of gender-based violence – where all people live free from fear and violence and are safe at home, at work, at school, in the community and online. This is a human right for all people.</p> <p>Australia is committed to furthering the rights of children and ensuring children in Australia can reach their full potential. Australian governments have devoted significant resources to policies and programs related to education, health (including mental health) and child safety.</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 203, health services in the rural and remote areas • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 281, protect indigenous women and children from family, domestic and sexual violence.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
230	Advance the right to education of all children, including through the equitable funding of schools (Sri Lanka)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australian schools are funded through a combination of Australian Government funding, state and territory government funding, and funding from parental or private contributions.</p> <p>The <i>Schooling Resource Standard</i> is an estimate of how much total public funding a school needs to meet its students' educational needs. It is based on recommendations made in the 2011 Review of Funding for Schooling by Mr David Gonski AC. In 2025, the estimated Schooling Resource Standard funding amounts are \$13,991 for primary students and \$17,582 for secondary students.</p> <p>The Schooling Resource Standard loadings provide additional funding for student priority groups and disadvantaged schools, comprised of a base amount and up to four student-based loadings and two school-based loadings. A student may attract funding under more than one loading. The Australian Government Department of Education calculates the Schooling Resource Standard for each school every year.</p> <p>In 2025, the Australian Government is funding at least 20 per cent of each government school's Schooling Resource Standard and 80 per cent of each non-government school's Schooling Resource Standard. State and territory governments also provide funding for government and non-government schools in their jurisdictions. Agreed recurrent funding contribution levels for government and non-government schools are set out in the bilateral agreements between the Australian, state and territory governments.</p> <p>The <i>Better and Fairer Schools Agreement – Full and Fair Funding 2025–2034</i> (BFSA) aims to improve education outcomes for all Australian students and build on the capability and capacity of the education workforce. The BFSA outlines a set of reforms in areas where national collaboration will have the greatest impact on driving improved student outcomes. Under the BFSA, all parties commit to targeted reforms focused on 3 priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equity and excellence • wellbeing for learning and engagement • a strong and sustainable workforce. <p>In 2024, the Australian Government passed legislation to support the implementation of the BFSA including supporting the funding trajectories agreed by states and territories for public schools.</p> <p>The BFSA includes commitments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ongoing implementation of <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–31</i> • national reforms to benefit all students, including priority cohorts: students with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, students living in regional, rural and remote locations and students from educationally-disadvantaged backgrounds. • review the <i>Measurement Framework for Schooling in Australia</i> including consideration of national measures of access, participation and outcomes for students with disability. <p>With respect to supporting children and students with disability, the Australian Government will undertake a review of the <i>Disability Standards for Education</i> in 2025.</p>

		<p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT) includes the right to education for every child.</p> <p>The ACT allocates school funding based on a needs-based model that upholds equity, consistency, and transparency. Funding is driven by the needs profile of each student and school enrolments to improved learning outcomes. The ACT funds public schools above 100 percent of the Student Resource Allocation, ensuring additional resources are directed to schools with the highest level of need, advancing education for all children and young people.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>Needs-based sector blind funding underpins both the NSW and Commonwealth school funding models. Addressing need is about directing funding to focus on bringing about equitable outcomes.</p> <p>NSW's commitment to equity and excellence means every student can learn, grow and belong at school. The <i>Plan for NSW Public Education</i> outlines how NSW will create an equitable and outstanding education system.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT's School Resourcing Model ensures funding for public schools is allocated through a student needs-based funding formula.</p> <p>In 2025, significant additional funding has been directed to schools under the <i>Heads of Agreement for the Better and Fairer Schools Agreement 2025–2034</i> so they can best respond to the needs of their students.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania supports the right of all children to education and has a range of strategies to ensure maximum accessibility. <i>The Education Act 2016</i> (Tas) ensures that every child and young person in Tasmania has a right to receive 13 years of education. Tasmania has signed onto the BFSA, which will put government schools on a pathway to 100 per cent funding by the beginning of 2026.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i> (Qld) protects the right of Queensland children to access education appropriate to their needs.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The objectives of the <i>Education and Children's Services Act 2019</i> (SA) include ensuring the development of an accessible range of education and children's services that meet the needs of all groups in the community, and a principle that every child has a right to education.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2025, Victoria signed the BFSA, a joint agreement between the Commonwealth, states and territories to help create a better and fairer education system for all students.</p> <p>Victoria delivers funding to government schools through the need-responsive Student Resource Package funding model. The package includes specific weightings and loadings to account for regionality, school size and the proportion of priority cohorts, including First Nations students, students with a disability and those with English as an Additional Language.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			WA public schools operate with a one-line budget and are funded through a student-centred funding model. Under the model, per student funding allocations to schools vary depending on the year level of the student, with additional targeted allocations to meet the specific learning needs of Aboriginal students, students facing social disadvantage, students with English as an additional language dialect and students with disability. The model includes school characteristic funding to ensure that schools are not disadvantages due to their size or location.
234	Further promote efforts to protect all children and provide them with better access to childhood services (<i>Barbados</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australia is committed to furthering the rights of children and ensuring children in Australia can reach their full potential. Australian governments have devoted significant resources to policies and programs related to education, health (including mental health) and child safety.</p> <p>Early childhood</p> <p><u>Early Years Strategy 2024–2034</u></p> <p>The <i>Early Years Strategy 2024–2034</i> sets out an overarching vision for children in Australia, along with clear goals to ensure little children aged 0–5, and their families, can learn, grow and thrive. The Strategy acknowledges the important role parents and caregivers have in their child’s life and seeks to provide the information and skills they need to raise nurtured, safe, connected and healthy children. The Strategy is built on five key Principles, eight Outcomes and four Priority Focus Areas where the Australian Government will direct effort to achieve its goals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • valuing the early years • empowering parents, caregivers and families • supporting and working with communities • strengthening accountability and coordination. <p>The Australian Government released the <i>First Action Plan 2024–27</i> and <i>Outcomes Framework</i> in December 2024 to support the implementation of the Strategy. The First Action Plan outlines the practical steps the Australian Government is taking to deliver outcomes in line with the Strategy’s five principles and four priority focus areas. The Outcomes Framework will measure progress against the Strategy’s eight Outcomes and allow monitoring of child and family wellbeing over the ten-year life of the Strategy.</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to work in partnership with First Nations partners and all levels of government to increase the proportion of First Nations children engaged in high-quality and culturally-responsive early childhood education. In the latest <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) data for Target 3 (Preschool Education, 2024) this target is on track to be met. In addition, the Community Child Care Fund program continues to support early education and care for vulnerable and disadvantaged communities through a grant. The Australian Government will also continue to work in partnership with First Nations partners and all levels of government to improve progress against other Closing the Gap early childhood Outcomes and all Priority Reforms, including Closing the Gap Target 4 (developmental readiness) which is currently not on track to be met.</p>

		<p><u>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Strategy – 2022-2032</u></p> <p>The <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Strategy</i> (the Strategy) recognises the first five years of a child’s life are critical for long-term health and wellbeing. It sets the vision that all First Nations children are born healthy and remain strong, nurtured by strong families and thrive in their early years. The Strategy aims to refocus investment and policy to ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are supported to grow up strong and proud in culture, as the future Elders and Custodians of Country across Australia. The Strategy provides a community-informed and evidence-based pathway to achieve Closing the Gap targets and outcomes for early childhood, and to fulfil joint commitments to the Priority Reforms.</p> <p>Child safety</p> <p><u>Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2021–2031</u></p> <p><i>Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2021–2031</i> (Safe and Supported) is Australia’s framework to reduce child abuse and neglect and its intergenerational impacts. Safe and Supported drives change through collective effort across governments and sectors that impact the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Safe and Supported supports commitments under Closing the Gap and its four Priority Reform areas.</p> <p>Safe and Supported implementation by its <i>First Action Plan 2023–26</i> and <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023–26</i> is underpinned by the <i>Safe and Supported Partnership Agreement</i>, a commitment between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Group (Leadership Group), the Australian Government, and all state and territory governments. The Partnership Agreement ensures that all Australian governments and the Leadership Group make decisions together about issues that impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.</p> <p><u>National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People</u></p> <p>On 13 January 2025, the Commonwealth established a National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People. The Commission’s role is to protect and promote the rights, interests and wellbeing of First Nations children and young people. The establishment of the National Commission represents a significant human rights achievement under three key national initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and Supported • the Early Childhood Care and Development Policy Partnership • Closing the Gap. <p><u>Working with children check reform</u></p> <p>On 15 August 2025, at the Standing Council of Attorneys-General meeting, Attorneys-General agreed to drive decisive action to deliver a national approach and address systemic gaps in Working with Children Checks (WWCCs) to improve the safety of children across Australia. Working with children checks are one important safeguarding tool to screen people who work with, or care for, children.</p> <p>Commitments include urgent work towards implementing national recognition of negative WWCC decisions (including negative notices and interim bars) by the end of 2025 and establishing the National Continuous Checking Capability, to provide continuous, near-real time monitoring of national changes to criminal history information of WWCC holders. Attorneys-General also agreed to improve national consistency and strengthen the quality of WWCC assessment frameworks to ensure better checks and increased safeguards for children.</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Collectively, these measures will deliver significant improvements to WWCC systems and establish concrete milestones to progress the establishment of a broader real-time information sharing capability and a national approach for mutual recognition.</p> <p><u>National Child and Family Investment Strategy</u></p> <p>In 2022, the Australian Government invested \$10 million over five years (2022–23 to 2026–27) to develop the <i>National Child and Family Investment Strategy</i> (Investment Strategy) and an Innovation Fund. The Investment Strategy involves the Australian Government and state and territory governments agreeing to a clear set of national principles and actions to reconsider funding priorities for the child and family service system, and shift from crisis driven responses towards preventative and early supports to reduce child abuse and neglect. This includes testing the practical implementation of the Investment Strategy through the Innovation Fund grant.</p> <p><u>Cultural competency</u></p> <p>In 2021, the Australian Government invested \$7.7 million over three years to develop the cultural competency and trauma responsiveness of the First Nations and non-First Nations child and family sector workforce. By supporting the existing child and family sector service providers to improve their cultural awareness and trauma responsive capabilities, it is anticipated that a higher number of families particularly First Nations clients will engage with service providers, and achieve more positive outcomes as a result of those engagements. This includes a reduction in reporting of First Nations people experiencing racism and an increase in feeling culturally safe in dealing with government, mainstream institutions and agencies.</p> <p>In 2021, the Australian Government committed \$49 million over five years design frontline service delivery models in partnership with First Nations organisations to better support First Nations families with multiple and complex needs with the aim of reducing the number of First Nations children coming into child protection systems. The Improving Multidisciplinary Responses Program aims to enhance and support holistic responses to First Nations families with multiple and complex needs in culturally, geographically and socially diverse contexts to overcome risk factors that may lead to child abuse and neglect.</p> <p><u>Family law changes</u></p> <p>In 2023, the Australian Government passed amendments to family law legislation to assist courts and parents to resolve parenting disputes, safely, efficiently and with a clear focus on the best interests of the children involved, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a simple, child-focussed list of 'best-interest' considerations to streamline the decision-making process for parenting orders. • Establishing requirements for Independent Children's Lawyers to meet directly with children and seek their views. • Removing a presumption relating to allocation of decision-making responsibility for major long-term issues, and related time provisions, to make clearer that the child's best interests are to be paramount in making these decisions. • Introducing a power to prevent further family law litigation which would cause harm to a child.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that children' voices are heard more easily in matters under the <i>Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction</i>. <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 230, education for all children 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>On 1 January 2024 the ACT commenced delivery of universal access to quality early childhood education for three-year-olds providing access to up to 300 hours per year of free early learning for eligible children.</p> <p>The <i>Next Steps for Our Kids 2022–2030</i> outlines the ACT Government 's strategy for strengthening families and keeping children and young people safe. The ACT Government continues to invest and progress reform work under Next Steps including earlier support for families and investing in a contemporary Care and Protection and Out of Home Care service system.</p> <p>The ACT Government had commissioned an independent review of the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system and agreed (in principle) to all recommendations that followed from the review and is currently tracking its progress to respond to those recommendations.</p> <p>The ACT Government delivers a range of community-based child and youth mental health programs.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>NSW has committed \$5 billion to improve affordability and access to high quality early childhood education and care services for NSW families. Recently announced initiatives include preschool fee relief for three-year-olds, flexible service operation initiatives to accommodate for broad family needs, investing in growth of not for profit early childhood education and care services in under-supplied areas and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.</p> <p>NSW is implementing <i>First Steps - the NSW Aboriginal Children's Early Childhood Education Strategy 2021–2025</i>. Developed and monitored in partnership with representatives from various Aboriginal key stakeholders and Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, the strategy connects to the national ambitions of Closing the Gap and has a key focus on engaging Aboriginal families in early childhood education and ensuring that cultural needs and aspirations are acknowledged and supported in policy and program development and implementation.</p> <p><i>Children First 2022–2031</i> responds to the findings and recommendations of the 2017 Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The policy framework outlines a whole-of-system public health reform for preventing and responding to problematic and harmful sexual behaviour (PHSB) displayed by children and young people. Children First is supported by Talking About It, the NSW government prevention action strategy, and <i>Safety in Action 2022–2024</i>, the first phase action plan for preventing and responding to PHSB in NSW.</p>

		<p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government remains committed to improving access and participation in quality early childhood programs to provide a strong start for all Territory children.</p> <p>The NT is embedding the National Principals for Child Safety in education institutions by embedding classroom practices and supports to improve child safe practices and identify and respond to risks of child harm and exploitation. In January 2024, the Education Act was amended to mandate all individuals involved in the education of children and young people prioritise child safety and wellbeing in their duties.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland is implementing the <i>Growing Deadly Families Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Strategy 2019–2025</i>, which sets out the vision that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies in Queensland are born healthy, and into strong resilient families. The Strategy aims to ensure every woman in Queensland giving birth to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander babies, has access to high quality, clinical and culturally capable maternity services. The Strategy focuses on valuing cultural traditions, values and beliefs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and listening to the needs of their communities.</p> <p>In 2025, Queensland proposes to deliver the <i>Safer Children, Safer Communities Strategy</i>, which aims to reform the residential care system and will contribute to whole-of-government commitments to reduce the number of young people interacting with the criminal justice system. To support this work, Queensland will be working to improve cross government commitments to all children in out-of-home care including in the areas of education and health, employment and training, economic and work participation.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In 2022, the Department of Human Services (DHS) released the <i>Roadmap for reforming the Child and Family Support System 2021–2023</i>, to ensure vulnerable children are safe and well in their families, communities, and culture. The Child and Family Support System (CFSS) established a new earlier intervention system, and supports families experiencing multiple and complex needs to safely care for their children and reduce the need for contact with child protection services.</p> <p>Government and contracted non-government organisations and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) deliver CFSS services across SA. DHS has committed 30 per cent of all funding provided to non-government organisations to be directed to ACCO providers. This is part of the Government’s commitment to supporting Aboriginal self-determination.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>In September 2023, the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's responses to <i>Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings</i> made 191 recommendations relating to children's rights, including a strengthened Commission for Children and Young People. All recommendations were accepted by the Tasmanian Government and are currently being implemented. In March 2025, the Tasmanian Government released <i>Change for Children</i>: a 10-year strategy to protect children and young people by preventing, identifying and responding to child sexual abuse, which complements the National Strategy and outlines a whole-of-community approach to making sure child-safe cultures and systems are in place in Tasmania.</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>In 2023 legislative changes were made, which introduced ten <i>Child and Youth Safe Standards</i> which mirror the <i>National Principles and a Reportable Conduct Scheme</i> which requires leaders of specific organisations to notify the Independent Regulator of conduct related to child abuse involving a worker, and to conduct investigations.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government's Early Learning for Three Year Olds initiative supports the capacity of Tasmania's Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services to ensure that quality early learning is available where children and families need it. This initiative complements the Working Together program that supports children and their families from disadvantaged and vulnerable backgrounds to access free ECEC. Child and Family Learning Centres across Tasmania continue to provide services and supports to improve the health, wellbeing and learning for children and their families from pregnancy to five years.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2022, Victoria announced the Best Start, Best Life (BSBL) reform, a \$14 billion investment to give Victorian children the best start in life. BSBL includes the delivery of free kinder for Victorian three- and four-year old children at participating services, the rollout of a universal 30-hour-per-week pre-Prep program for four-year-olds and the establishment of 50 Victorian government-owned and operated early learning and childcare centres in areas of unmet demand.</p> <p>As part of BSBL, free kinder is now available along with the transition of four-year-old kindergarten to pre-Prep.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, child safe organisations create cultures where the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is prioritised and actions are taken to identify risks and protect them from harm, including from sexual abuse. The <i>National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</i> provide a framework to guide organisations in developing child safe cultures and practices, including the ability to identify risks and take agreed actions to prevent, respond to and report child abuse. The WA Government is committed to supporting the development of safe organisations for children and young people and is working to develop an independent oversight system that includes monitoring and enforcement of the National Principles. Every organisation has a responsibility to keep children and young people safe.</p>
235	Continue to expand and provide resources for the delivery of child targeted mental health and support services (<i>Malta</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented - ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to supporting infants, children and young people with, or at risk of, mental illness by improving both mental health early intervention and prevention, and access to mental health support and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian Government funds a national network of 17 Kids Hubs, headspace services and Medicare Mental Health Centres (formerly Head to Health) to provide free and low-cost support for individuals who need mental health support. • The Australian Government also funds the Primary Health Networks to plan and commission regionally appropriate primary mental health and suicide prevention services according to local need, including mental health services for children and young people. • The <i>National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy</i> outlines the requirements for an effective, universal system of care for children and is guiding action and long-term critical Government investment to support the mental health and wellbeing of children from birth through to 12 years of age, as well as the families and communities that nurture them.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the <i>National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement</i> the Australian Government is working with states and territories to improve access to multi-disciplinary treatment and care for children and young people. • The National Mental Health in Education initiative, provides educators in early learning services, preschools and schools with free online training, resources and guidance to increase their mental health literacy and ability to support the mental health and wellbeing of their students. • The National Workforce Centre in Child Mental Health assists professionals and organisations who work with children and their parents or families to have the skills to identify, assess and support children at risk of mental health conditions. <p>The Australian Government also funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parenting Education and Support Program providing free, universal access to evidence-based, online parenting education and resources for Australian parents and carers with a child under 12 years, aiming to equip them with the necessary confidence, skills and strategies required to better support child mental health and wellbeing through the key developmental milestones. • The Raising Healthy Minds app under the Supporting Parent Mental Health Literacy Program providing parents and carers of children aged 0 to 12 years with free access to information, tips, practical ideas and guidance to help them support their child's social and emotional health and wellbeing and raise confident, resilient kids. • The Raise Foundation to provide best practice early intervention and prevention mentoring programs to students in Years 7 to 9 at public secondary schools across Australia who are at risk of school disengagement and poor mental health and wellbeing, prioritising schools in regional and low socio-economic areas. • MacKillop Family Services to deliver the Seasons for Life initiative supporting secondary school communities across Australia with evidence-based loss and grief education following a suicide or other loss event. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>The Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government delivers a range of community-based child and youth mental health programs including: therapeutic services for children aged 12 and under who have experienced trauma; early intervention for young people with characteristics of emerging borderline personality disorder; a high school-based mental health promotion and suicide prevention program.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW Government has committed to increasing the number of school counsellors and school psychologists in schools by 250 positions bringing the total to more than 1,500 positions across the state by 2027. This will increase the expanding wellbeing and mental health support available to students, with more than 2,000 wellbeing roles currently in NSW public schools. These include school counsellors, school psychologists, student support officers, wellbeing nurse coordinators and school chaplains/wellbeing officers.</p>

		<p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government aims to enhance the mental health system for infants, children, and adolescents through a roadmap for improved access, quality, and integration of services. A new 24-bed inpatient unit is being constructed to provide targeted care for young people with complex mental health needs. To further support student well-being, the NT Government is expanding programs and resources, including increasing the number of school-based counsellors. The NT Government partnered with Beyond Blue to implement the Be You Program in schools and preschools, promoting a holistic approach to student well-being through evidence-based strategies. Social workers and psychologists collaborate with other agencies to ensure students receive appropriate referrals to address their mental health and well-being needs.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland Health delivers a continuum of specialist child and youth mental health services in a range of community and hospital-based settings for clinical assessment, treatment and care, and psychosocial supports.</p> <p>Significant new investment has been directed to establish new and enhance existing services, and to strengthen and improve responses to ensure Queensland’s children and young people and their families have services that respond to their mental health needs.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The SA Government has established a School Mental Health Service. Practitioners are providing an early intervention mental health service for students experiencing mild to moderate mental health concerns.</p> <p>The SA Government is procuring a service provider to deliver the Head to Health Kids Hub in metropolitan Adelaide. Services will be based on the Head to Health Kids National Service Model, as a secondary level child mental health and wellbeing service, targeting children 0–12 years with emerging mental health needs and their families/caregivers.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government is supporting the delivery of comprehensive, contemporary and integrated child and youth mental health services (CYMHS) across the state. CYMHS is a community-based mental health service for children young people aged 0–24 years and provides specialist, tertiary assessment and interventions for those experiencing severe and complex mental health conditions and illness.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government also continues to seek to enhance statewide access to timely and appropriate community-based services for infants, children, young people, and their families through the implementation of the recommendations of the <i>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Review 2020</i>.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government established the Schools Mental Health Fund (the Fund) and the evidence-based <i>Schools Mental Health Menu</i> (the Menu), with \$200 million over four years and \$86 million ongoing allocated to the initiative in the 2021/22 Victorian State Budget. The Fund and the Menu provide a list of programs, staff and other supports that schools are able to access to improve the mental health and wellbeing of students. These initiatives work to support schools, providing a panel of providers with pricing and terms and conditions that have been negotiated by the Victorian Department of Education with the best interests of schools in mind.</p> <p>These initiatives are in response to the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System, recognising the important role schools play in providing support for the mental health and wellbeing of young Victorians.</p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Government committed to eight key actions to transform, and continually improve, the public infant, child and adolescent mental health system, with an initial \$47.4 million committed to initiate reform. Recent milestones include: establishing the Community Infant, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Hub in the South West; a network of mobile and virtual Acute Care and Response Teams to provide urgent mental health care to children; and improving community treatment for young people with emerging personality disorder related needs through upskilling staff and delivery of group programs.</p>
236	Address discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system (<i>Sudan</i>)	Accepts	<p>Partially implemented</p> <p>The Australian government continues to recognise the importance of providing effective access to justice for people with disability to ensure their rights are respected. Under <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> (ADS), Australian governments have agreed to work to ensure the criminal justice system responds effectively to the complex needs and vulnerabilities of people with disabilities and to reduce the over-representation of people with disability across the criminal justice system. The ADS reflects the respective roles and responsibilities of governments in Australia's federal system and enables focused, collaborative effort.</p> <p>The <i>Guiding Principles for Corrections in Australia</i> provide that correctional practices identify, minimise and manage any risks to prisoners and that prisoners, particularly those most vulnerable or at-risk, are safe from bullying, intimidation and victimisation, including verbal, mental or physical abuse, damage or property theft.</p> <p>The <i>National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement</i> (National Agreement) came into effect in March 2022 and has been endorsed by the Commonwealth and all states and territories. The National Agreement commits to improving mental health and well-being outcomes and reducing suicide for priority populations groups, including people with a disability and people who are (or were previously) in contact with the criminal justice system. The National Agreement reaffirms that states are primarily responsible for providing appropriate inpatient care for remanded sentenced prisoners in custodial settings.</p> <p>Disability Royal Commission recommendations on criminal justice and people with disability</p> <p>The Australian government and certain state and territory governments have accepted a number of recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission) in relation to the criminal justice system and people with disability, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering and progressing reform to better protect the human rights of people with disability in places of detention, including to continue to cooperatively and progressively work towards full implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including resolving ongoing funding arrangements. • Ensuring that people with disability have equal access to justice, and considering whether changes are required when updating guidance or other relevant information. • Working together to clarify roles and responsibilities at the interface between the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and justice services.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a publicly available framework, embedded into existing National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) guidelines, that clearly articulates how the NDIS and other service systems will work together, supporting people entering custody and transitioning back to the community. • Considering amending the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> (Cth) (DDA) to expressly include services provided by police officers in the course of performing policing duties and powers in the definition of services in the DDA. • Improving police responses to people with disability and recognise the essential role of law enforcement in promoting and maintaining fundamental human rights and ensuring that police services are adequately equipped to engage with people with disability according to their needs. <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 135, inadequate mental health institutions • 205, 206, awareness raising and education on human rights for law enforcement officers, migration officials and those working in the justice sector. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT's <i>Disability Justice Strategy (2019–2029)</i> aims to ensure equal access to justice for people with disability. Since the Strategies implementation there has been significant progress against the actions including but not limited to: the establishment of a community of practice, Disability Liaison Officers, and a Best Practice Guide has been developed in consultation with ACT Policing.</p> <p>The ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Disability Reference Group is an advisory group consisting of people with expertise in various aspects of disability through lived experience and/or through other types of experience relevant to ACTCS.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The Justice Advocacy Service (JAS) was established in 2019 and is a state-wide service that supports victims, witnesses, suspects and defendants who may have a cognitive impairment to participate in police, legal and court processes by providing a support person and advocating for other reasonable adjustments.</p> <p>JAS's court-based diversion service commenced in July 2022 and is currently operational at six Local Courts. JAS supports a defendant's legal representative to seek a diversionary order, which can result in a range of outcomes including dismissal of the charges (with or without conditions) and discharge into the care of a responsible person and/or for assessment, treatment or the provision of support. JAS supports a defendant by collecting existing evidence of their cognitive impairment or arranging clinical assessments, as well as with accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme and/or to engage with other community supports.</p> <p>The NSW Government is undertaking an evaluation of the JAS diversion program and, subject to the outcome of the evaluation, will explore options to expand the JAS diversion program to more NSW Local Courts</p>

		<p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>Actions within the NT's <i>Disability Strategy Action Plan 2022–2025</i> include: increasing specialist assessment services in correctional facilities and building capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of harm.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Government is focused on enhancing service delivery and access to justice services for vulnerable and disadvantaged Queenslanders include people with disability. Queensland is currently enacting a <i>Disability Action Plan</i> and developing a disability assistance process. This will incorporate education for court staff to promote flexible arrangements for court users with a disability.</p> <p>The Queensland Government will pilot a disability stream as part of the Court Link program in the Brisbane Magistrates Court to support identified adult defendants who present with formally diagnosed or suspected cognitive disability to access support as well as referrals to service providers and programs (including the NDIS).</p> <p>In progressing reforms to introduce an affirmative model of consent in Queensland, safeguards were included for people who have a cognitive or mental health impairment</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In 2024, SA implemented of the state's first <i>Autism Strategy</i> to improve knowledge, understanding and acceptance of the autistic and autism communities. Interactions with the criminal and youth justice system will be addressed within the Strategy's focus areas.</p> <p>The SA State <i>Disability Inclusion Plan 2025–2029</i> aligns with the ADS.</p> <p>The SA Department of Human Services is committed to ensuring services and supports are responsive to children and young people with disability-related needs and has implemented a range of measures to improve therapeutic outcomes.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government has accepted in principle recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission concerning people with disability in custodial settings. The Tasmanian Government is considering how to implement recommendations to give effect to the recommendations.</p> <p>Outside of the Disability Royal Commission, the <i>Disability Services Act 2011</i> (Tas) is being reformed, and the <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1995</i> (Tas) has recently been amended, to further strengthen the rights of people with disability.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government's response to the Disability Royal Commission details specialist disability supports and services available to adults in Victorian prisons.</p> <p>The Victorian Government has passed the <i>Youth Justice Act 2024</i> (Vic), which provides that a child or young person who is held in custody in a youth justice custodial centre has a right to receive the physical, disability and mental health support and treatment that the child or young person requires.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The Disability Advocacy and Referral Diversion for Young People service is a holistic, culturally safe and disability aware service which helps young people in the criminal justice system who have a disability.</p>
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			Legislative reforms, which commenced in 2024 have removed the practice of indefinite detention of people with mental impairment in the justice system (including disabilities constituting a mental impairment) and now requires courts, where custody is ordered, to impose a limiting term aligned to the likely sentence they would have imposed had the person been found guilty of the offence. The reforms also require more frequent reviews of cases to ensure a rigorous system of supervision and management, aligned to individuals' needs and circumstances. Legal assistance services are provided for people who fall within the ambit of the reforms, which provides procedural fairness and plays a significant role in protecting the human rights of people with mental impairment in the criminal justice system.
239	Continue its efforts in the implementation of the National Disability Strategy (Ethiopia)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p><i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (ADS)</i> is a national framework that all Australian governments have signed up to. It sets out a plan for continuing to improve the lives of people with disability in Australia over 10 years. ADS was developed by all levels of government together with people with disability, their families, carers, and representatives. ADS will drive change to uphold the rights, inclusion, and participation of people with disability in all areas of Australian life.</p> <p>ADS was reviewed through both public and targeted consultation and updated in 2024. Commitment to the Strategy was reaffirmed by all 3 levels of government in early 2025. Throughout the review, people with disability and representative organisations shared their perspectives on how governments can continue to improve the everyday lives of people with disability.</p> <p>The ADS vision is for an inclusive Australian society that ensures people with disability can fulfil their potential, as equal members of the community. ADS is based on the social model of disability. It recognises attitudes, practices and structures can be disabling and act as barriers. These can prevent people from fulfilling their potential and exercising their rights as equal members of the community.</p> <p>There are seven ADS Outcome Areas that people with disability told us need to improve to achieve the Strategy's vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment and financial security • inclusive homes and communities • safety, rights and justice • personal and community support • education and learning • health and wellbeing • community attitudes <p>All levels of government play a role in services, supports and infrastructure for people with disability. Governments are obliged to provide services to all citizens. They also need to make reasonable adjustments to ensure people with disability can access those systems and services.</p> <p>Two major independent evaluations will be undertaken over the life of ADS, with the first commencing in 2025–2026.</p>

			<p><u>Targeted Action Plans</u></p> <p>Commencing in 2025, Governments have established three new Targeted Action Plans (TAPS) under ADS to apply an intensive focus on Community Attitudes, Safety, Rights and Justice and Inclusive Homes and Communities, which are all areas that people with disability have identified as being of critical importance. Each state, territory and many local governments are also implementing disability plan(s) in place to progress reform consistent with ADS.</p> <p>The <i>Community Attitudes TAP</i> sets out key actions to; increase representation of people with disability in leadership roles; employers to value the contribution people with disability make to the workforce, and recognise the benefits of employing people with disability and that key professional workforces can confidently and positively respond to people with disability; and improve community attitudes to positively impact on Policy Priorities under ADS.</p> <p>The <i>Safety, Rights and Justice TAP</i> is designed to drive progress for the criminal justice system to respond effectively to the complex needs and vulnerabilities of people with disability; policies, processes and programs for people with disability promote gender equality and prevent violence against groups of heightened risk, including women and children; policies, processes and programs provide better responses to people with disability who have experienced trauma.</p> <p><u>Disability Services and Inclusion Act</u></p> <p>The <i>Disability Services and Inclusion Act 2023</i> (Cth) (DSI Act) commenced on 1 January 2024, replacing the <i>Disability Services Act 1986</i> (Cth) as the primary source of legislative authority for Commonwealth funding of disability services and supports outside the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The DSI Act provides a way to continue funding existing supports and services, while giving authority for the Commonwealth to design new supports and services in the future to better support people with disability, their families and carers. In conjunction with other laws, the DSI Act gives effect to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and seeks to protect people with disability, their families and carers by improving the quality and safeguarding arrangements to enhance service delivery and strengthen safeguards for people with disability.</p> <p>The ADS acknowledge intersectionality and diversity of people with disability in delivering against the policy priorities and outcome areas of the strategy. The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> and ADS set out the expectations for transformative change from First Nations people and people with disability. Both frameworks seek to embed a strength-based approach to overcoming system-imposed barriers faced by First Nations people with disability. This includes actions set out in the Disability Sector Strengthening Plan to build the community-controlled disability sector and funding for First Peoples Disability Network, the peak body for First Nations people with disability, for the National Disability Footprint Program.</p> <p><u>National Disability Insurance Scheme</u></p> <p>The <i>Final Report of the Independent Review into the National Disability Insurance Scheme</i> (NDIS Review) was publicly released on 7 December 2023 and laid out a blueprint for reform.</p> <p>In December 2023, as an initial response to the NDIS Review, National Cabinet agreed to work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement legislative and other changes to the NDIS to improve the experience of participants and restore the original intent of the Scheme to support people with permanent and significantly disability, within a broader ecosystem of supports.
--	--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust state and territory NDIS contributions escalation rates, increasing from 4 per cent to be in line with actual Scheme growth, capped at 8 per cent, with the Commonwealth paying the remainder of Scheme costs growth, commencing from 1 July 2028, and • Jointly design additional Foundational Supports to be jointly commissioned by the Commonwealth and the states. <p>Alongside these legislative changes, National Cabinet agreement, is investing in significant reforms to make the NDIS more responsive, consistent and fair. The Australian Government is working closely with the disability community to design and develop these reforms. Investments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$910 million over five years in the 2023–24 Budget to improve the NDIS, and support and safeguard people with disability. • \$511 million over two years in the 2023–24 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) to support the effective and sustainable operation of the NDIS and improve participant outcomes. • \$468.7 million over five years in the 2024–25 Budget to support people with disability and get the NDIS back on track. • \$1 billion in the 2024–25 MYEFO to improve the experience of NDIS participants, protect scheme sustainability and longevity. • \$539.9 million in the 2025–26 Budget to further safeguard the integrity of the NDIS and support the people with disability and to reform the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building program to deliver the building blocks for General Foundational Supports, as envisaged by the NDIS Review. <p><u>Health services for people with disabilities</u></p> <p>The <i>National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability</i> addresses serious health inequities faced by people with intellectual disability. It is underpinned by six objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve support for people with intellectual disability, their families, and carers. • Develop better models of care for people with intellectual disability. • Provide support for health professionals to help them deliver quality care for people with intellectual disability. • Improve oral health for people with intellectual disability. • Strengthen research, data, and measurement to monitor the health outcomes of people with intellectual disability and assess the effectiveness of initiative in improving health. • Improve emergency preparedness and response to ensure that the needs of people with intellectual disability are considered and met. <p><u>Employment services for people with disability</u></p> <p>The Australian Government provides a range of employment services for people with disabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Employment Services (DES) — the main employment service for people with disability, injury and/or health condition. DES providers can help people to prepare for, find and keep a job. DES will be replaced by a new program, called Inclusive Employment Australia, in late 2025.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Centre for Inclusive Employment, which will provide resources, tools and training for employment service providers to help them deliver quality employment services and supports and improve employment outcomes for people with disability. • The Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Program, which offers one-on-one support to young people aged 12–25 at 50 headspace centres across Australia, and the Digital Work and Study Service (DWSS), which helps young people with mental ill health achieve their work or study goals. • JobAccess, which is a national hub for workplace and employment information for employers, people with a disability and employment service providers. The JobAccess service also includes the Employment Assistance Fund. This fund provides reimbursements for workplace modifications, equipment and services that assist a person with disability to do their job. <p>The Australian Government is also working to support the reform of the supported employment sector (i.e. employment for people with disability with high support needs). \$57 million has been committed for a range of measures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Structural Adjustment Fund, which is supporting providers to increase pathways to open employment, and create new employment opportunities, and • The Disability Employment Advocacy and Information Program, which is providing independent support to help people with disability understand their rights and explore work options. <p><u>Financial independence</u></p> <p>All levels of government play a role in services, supports and infrastructure for people with disability. For example, Services Australia is committed to the successful implementation of ADS. Services Australia's role is critical to strengthening the financial independence of people with disability through the delivery of income support payments to those who are unable to work or secure employment. This is a policy priority within ADS employment and financial security outcome area.</p> <p>Services Australia is actively exploring opportunities to enhance accessibility and inclusiveness in the delivery of government services, for example identifying ways to ensure information and communication systems are accessible, reliable and responsive to people with disability. These efforts are in response to Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability findings and demonstrate the Agency's progress at embedding the vision and principles of ADS.</p> <p><u>Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport</u></p> <p>The 56th Concluding Observation of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that governments increase their efforts to ensure that people with disabilities, including children with disabilities, enjoy their right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport on an equal basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the ways the Australian Government is delivering this is through the implementation of <i>Equity: the Arts and Disability Associated Plan</i> (Equity), which is an initiative under Australia's National Cultural Policy <i>Revive a place for every story, a story for every place</i> and an Associated Plan under the ADS.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Released in November 2024, <i>Equity</i> is four-year roadmap of activities to build the foundations for equity for artists, arts workers and audiences with disability across Australia, with an \$8.1 million investment in actions to drive change. ● Reflecting the priorities of people with disability, the Associated Plan will support change over time by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding actions to build support towards sustainable careers for artists and arts workers with disability. ○ Supporting the wider arts and cultural sector to become more accessible and inclusive. ○ Including strong disability representation in the development and implementation of the Plan, including from intersectional cohorts. <p><u>Violence against people with disability</u></p> <p>In August 2023, the Australian Government released the <i>First Action Plan 2023-2027</i> (First Action Plan), under the <i>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–32</i>. The Australian Government is working with relevant stakeholders on the development of a framework that applies a disability lens across the First Action Plan.</p> <p>In addition, the Australian Government has committed \$0.500 million (within the \$11.118 million) to develop an interpretive version of the First Action Plan to provide further clarity and guidance on how to strengthen the family, domestic and sexual violence service system for women and children with disabilities.</p> <p><u>Construction Reforms</u></p> <p>Efforts to reform the National Construction Code to increase accessibility of new structures has been achieved. The Department of Industry Science and Resources has completed the five-year legislative review into the Disability (Access to Premises - Building) Standards 2010 - published September 2021. Following this review the Department of Industry Science and Resource and the Attorney-General's Department incorporated updates to the Standards to maintain alignment with revised Australian Standards AS 1428.1 on design for access and mobility.</p> <p>The Building Ministers' Meeting has supported updates to the National Construction Code, to incorporate improved accessibility requirements for newly constructed houses and apartments. As of 31 March 2025, these changes have been adopted by six of eight states and territories.</p> <p><u>Transport</u></p> <p>On 20 March 2024, the Australian Government announced a package of reforms to the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Transport Standards). The reforms will modernise the Transport Standards to improve accessibility for people with disability. The reforms were developed in collaboration with people with disability, the public transport industry and state and territory governments.</p> <p>Separate to the reform process, the final report and government response for the 2022 statutory review of the Transport Standards was published on 28 November 2024. Many of the opportunities for action identified in the review are being addressed through the reforms to the Transport Standards and the implementation of Aviation White Paper initiatives.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Australian Government's <i>Aviation White Paper</i>, released in August 2024, committed the Australian Government to delivering an aviation sector that protects the rights of people with disability. This includes creating new aviation-specific disability standards as a schedule to the Transport Standards.</p> <p>The new aviation-specific standards are being developed through a co-design process with people with disability during the first half of 2025, with broader community consultation on options for the standards in the second half of 2025. The new standards are expected to be finalised in 2026.</p> <p>In Australia, all schools are required under the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (DSE) to provide reasonable adjustments for students with disability to allow them to access and participate in education on the same basis as their peers. The Australian Government is currently implementing recommendations of the 2020 Review of the DSE which support ADS's focus on strengthening inclusive design and delivery of mainstream systems and policy. The Australian Government is also conducting the legislated 2025 Review of the Disability Standards for Education.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 230, education for all children • 238, national action plan for inclusive education.
243, 250	Prevent and provide remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities placed in institutions or residences (<i>Croatia, Angola</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>See recommendation 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system.</p> <p>The Australian Government is further considering this in the light of the release of the <i>Final Report of the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of People with Disability</i> (Disability Royal Commission) and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Review.</p> <p>The Final Report of the Disability Royal Commission was tabled in the Australian Parliament in 2023 and contains 222 recommendations.</p> <p>On 31 July 2024, the Australian Government released its initial response to the Final Report of the Disability Royal Commission. As part of its initial response, the Australian Government committed to strengthen safeguards, uphold human rights, and drive greater inclusion and accessibility for a safer and more inclusive Australia for people with disability.</p> <p>A Commonwealth Disability Royal Commission Taskforce has been established to coordinate the Australian Government's response to the Disability Royal Commission, setting priorities, providing advice and bringing together all affected portfolios in a unified effort.</p> <p>The Australian Government, which has primary or shared responsibility for 172 of these recommendations accepted or accepted in principle 130 recommendations, is considering further 36 recommendations, and noted 6 recommendations.</p> <p>To build on existing funding and commitments to support a safe, inclusive and accessible Australia for people with disability, the Australian Government is making a significant investment towards the first phase of its response to the Disability Royal Commission, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6.9 million to review and modernise the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$39.7 million to transition a new individual disability advocacy program • \$2.6 million for the continued delivery of the National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline and the Complaints Resolution and Referral Service • \$4.4 million for consistent approaches to community visitor schemes as a safeguarding mechanism • \$2 million towards improving the safety of women and girls with disability • \$1.2 million to develop targets to reduce and eliminate restrictive practices • \$15.6 million to unify national disability quality and safeguarding arrangements. <p>The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) takes a nation-wide approach to regulating the quality and safeguards of people with disability receiving NDIS supports or services.</p> <p>The NDIS Commission has considered the intent, findings, and recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission, the NDIS Review, and the NDIS Provider and Worker Registration Taskforce.</p> <p>The NDIS Commission is making changes to regulation to improve the quality and safety of support being delivered to NDIS participants. Continuous improvements to the safety and quality of NDIS services and supports is a central theme to the NDIS Commission's regulatory reform activities.</p> <p>Since 2022, the NDIS Commission has undertaken three Own Motion Inquiries, including into Aspects of Supported Accommodation in the NDIS. Significant and systemic activities informed by the Own Motion Inquiries have informed practice improvements. Responses include progressing regulatory reform, as well as maturation in resources, capability, and systems of the NDIS Commission to improve the quality and safety of supports and services funded through the NDIS.</p> <p>In addition to the Own Motion Inquiry into Aspects of Supported Accommodation, since 2023 the NDIS Commission has consulted with over 900 stakeholders including providers, workers, and participants and their families on supported accommodation and Supported Independent Living. As a result, the NDIS Commission is developing new Practice Standards for Supported Independent Living (SIL) to support participants to have greater opportunities to exercise their human rights. The NDIS Commission uses Practice Standards to set provider, support quality and competency expectations.</p> <p>In 2024, the Australian Government announced its intention to introduce mandatory registration for platform providers, support coordinators and Supported Independent Living (SIL), to strengthen the quality and safety of supports.</p> <p>The NDIS Commission is also undertaking public consultation on the second phase of quality and safeguarding amendments proposed to the NDIS Act. The proposed quality and safeguarding amendments aim to strengthen the regulatory powers of the NDIS Commission. The NDIS Commission is also undertaking a comprehensive review of all the NDIS Commissioner's Rules and Practice Standards.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government is considering the Disability Royal Commission recommendations with state and territory responsibility.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>Under the NT's <i>Disability Strategy Action Plan (2022–2025)</i> priorities include the delivery of disability confident and accessible justice and corrections systems.</p> <p>The NT Government is considering the Disability Royal Commission recommendations with state and territory responsibility.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In 2024, the Queensland Government released the <i>Queensland Disability Reform Framework – The Next Chapter</i>, which has a key focus on implementing reforms arising from the Disability Royal Commission and the NDIS Review. Queensland will implement its response to Disability Royal Commission recommendations concerning restrictive practices and improved complaints processes.</p> <p>Additionally, through the <i>Inclusive Homes and Communities Targeted Action Plan 2025–2027</i>, the Queensland Government has committed to actions that aim to protect people with disability by ensuring they have choice and control about where they live, who they live with, and who comes into their home.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In SA, the next State <i>Disability Inclusion Plan</i> is being developed and aligns with United Nations <i>Convention Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i> (CRPD) principles. The State Plan requires the development of Disability Action and Inclusion Plans for all State and Local Government agencies aligned to the Outcome Areas of <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i>.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government has passed legislation for a <i>Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024</i> (Tas), that reflects, through Principles, the CRPD and a Human Rights approach. The Act, yet to commence, will require all defined entities of the Tasmanian Government (Agencies, Business Enterprises and Authorities) to have Disability Inclusion Action Plans. The Act also establishes a Disability Commissioner and Senior Practitioner, each with a range of powers to take complaints, investigate and take action to protect the rights of people with disability.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government published an individual response to the Disability Royal Commission in July 2024. Victoria's response builds on work already underway, including the state disability plan, <i>Inclusive Victoria: state disability plan (2022–2026)</i>, which includes as a priority area the prevention of abuse and neglect of people with disability, including those living in disability supported accommodation.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>Of the 132 Disability Royal Commission recommendations that apply to WA, the WA Government has accepted or accepted in part or in principle, 100 recommendations. The remaining 32 recommendations are being considered further. A <i>Disability Royal Commission Implementation Roadmap</i> was released 23 December 2024 and provides a plan and key timeframes for when recommendations will be implemented. It also identifies short-term priority actions and work underway to develop positions for further consideration recommendations.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
251	Address violence against persons with disabilities, as well as ensure treatment by the justice system that will take into account potential cognitive disabilities and mental health impairments (<i>Poland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government committed \$11.117 million (including indexation and supplementation) over four years for preventing and responding to violence against women and girls with disability. This funding is being used to develop resources and build workforce capability to improve responses for women and girls with disability when violence, including \$0.500 million to develop an interpretive version of the <i>First Action Plan 2023–2027</i> (First Action Plan) to provide further clarity and guidance on how to strengthen the family, domestic and sexual violence service system for women and children with disabilities.</p> <p>The National Disability Insurance Scheme Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) is an independent agency established to improve the quality and safety of NDIS supports and services.</p> <p>The NDIS Commission uses a range of compliance and enforcement tools to prevent and address breaches of the <i>National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013</i> (NDIS Act). The NDIS Act provides the NDIS Commission with a range of compliance and enforcement powers, including banning orders, compliance notices and court-based outcomes. In addition, we educate the sector and work closely with other complaints and regulatory bodies.</p> <p>Human rights are a focus of the NDIS Commission in all elements of our work. The NDIS Commission has adopted a set of human rights duties and action statements, to support enhancement of organisational culture and amplification of human rights in administrative practice and policy development. These duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Positive Duty: An obligation for staff to act compatibly with human rights and to consider human rights when making decisions. • A Participation Duty: Ensure the participation of certain groups and individuals in relation to policies and decisions that directly or disproportionately affect their rights. • A Duty of Candour: Be open and transparent with people, acknowledge and apologise when something could have gone better, and learn from what happened and prevent it recurring. <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system • 239, Australia's Disability Strategy • 242, access to justice for persons with disabilities • 243, 250, remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities in institutions or residences.
253	Consider adopting a comprehensive strategy to improve the overall condition of indigenous peoples in close consultation with indigenous organizations (<i>Slovenia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>

		<p>National Agreements on Closing the Gap</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) is a unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians. The Australian Government has used successive Closing the Gap frameworks since 2008 to guide and coordinate national efforts to improve the economic, health and education outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Closing the Gap is Australia’s comprehensive strategy to improve the overall condition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and is designed and enacted in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>In March 2019, a formal <i>Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> was established between the Australian Government, state and territory Governments, the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations (Coalition of Peaks), and the Australian Local Government Association. For the first time, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, represented by community-controlled peak organisations and members, shared decision-making with all levels of government on Closing the Gap, under a formal arrangement. This included the development and implementation of the Closing the Gap, signed by all parties in July 2020. Parties agreed outcomes, targets and Priority Reform Areas to enable them to design policies and programs to benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The National Agreement provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seventeen socio-economic outcomes, which reflect key areas where progress is needed to improve the lives of First Nations people. • Nineteen targets, which are tools for measuring progress against socio-economic outcomes and, ultimately, the success of the Priority Reforms. • Four Priority Reforms, which are the foundation of change. These reforms are critical, as they fundamentally shift how governments works with First Nations people, embedding genuine partnerships, decision-making and self-determination into policy and practice. <p>At the centre of Closing the Gap are four Priority Reforms that focus on changing the way governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and underpin 17 socioeconomic outcomes. Progress on these targets are published on a Closing the Gap dashboard. Regular reporting on these targets maintains momentum and keeps all levels of government accountable to the targets set out in the National Agreement.</p> <p>The Priority Reforms are central to the National Agreement and focus on changing how governments work with First Nations people by embedding their perspectives and knowledge into policies and programs. These interlinked reforms must be progressed together to achieve the objectives of the National Agreement and ensure tangible outcomes for First Nations communities. Achieving these reforms requires collective responsibility across all governments and agencies, investing time and resources to build trustworthy partnerships, strengthen community relationships, and establish governance frameworks to support the necessary actions and commitments.</p> <p>Closing the Gap is underpinned by the principle that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a genuine say in the design and delivery of policies, programs and services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved.</p> <p>Closing the Gap acknowledges the ongoing strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in sustaining their cultures, which are amongst the oldest living cultures in the world.</p>
--	--	---

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Priority Reforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen and establish formal partnerships and shared decision-making. • Build the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector. • Transform government organisations so they work better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. • Improve and share access to data and information to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities make informed decision. <p>All Parties to Closing the Gap are required to develop implementation plans that set out how policies and programs are aligned to Closing the Gap and what actions will be taken to achieve the Priority Reforms and socio-economic outcomes. Implementation plans and annual reports providing information on progress are tabled in the relevant parliament to improve public oversight and increase accountability.</p> <p>Under Closing the Gap, five initial policy partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives including the Coalition of the Peaks and Commonwealth and state and territory governments have been established – Justice (2021), Early Childhood Care and Development (2022), Social and Emotional Wellbeing (2022), Languages (2022) and Housing (2022). Additionally, the Australian Government is currently working towards establishing a First Nations Economic Partnership, announced in August 2025. By empowering First Nations people to have a direct role in policy and decision-making processes, the Australian Government aims to address disparities in a range of socioeconomic areas including health, education, employment, and housing.</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to specific socio-economic targets under the Closing the Gap framework, such as increasing the proportion of First Nations people in employment and reducing the overrepresentation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system. These efforts are complemented by initiatives like the Empowered Communities Program, which supports First Nations-led initiatives to enhance community governance and self-determination. The Australian Government understands to more progress needs to be made. Through these comprehensive measures, the Australian Government aims to create a more equitable and prosperous future for First Nations peoples.</p> <p>Productivity Commission</p> <p>Chapter 7 of Closing the Gap outlines the requirement for the Productivity Commission to maintain a Closing the Gap Information Repository to measure and evaluate progress of the National Agreement. This repository serves as an accountability mechanism, tracking both the socio-economic targets and Priority Reforms. Since Closing the Gap came into effect, there has been much goodwill and effort but as several reports have shown, change has been too slow.</p> <p>The Productivity Commission's first 3-yearly Review of Closing the Gap released on 7 February 2024 found that governments are not adequately delivering on the commitments in Closing the Gap and have not fully grasped the scale of change required to their systems, culture, operations and ways of working to deliver the unprecedented shift they have committed to. The Productivity Commission Review made clear that delivering the Priority Reforms requires proactive and positive engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to share decision making on policy and program design, implementation and evaluation.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Productivity Commission's March 2025 update shows improvement continues to be made in 10 of 19 Closing the Gap Targets.</p> <p>The Commonwealth reviews, evaluates and refines its collective approach to specific programs and approaches in line with directions on review in Closing the Gap. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of programs and initiatives are complemented by the Productivity Commission's reviews and Independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-Led Review to be held in 2025.</p> <p>Shared decision making</p> <p>Closing the Gap acknowledges the ongoing strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in sustaining their cultures. It is underpinned by the principle that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a genuine say in the design and delivery of policies, programs and services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved.</p> <p>Formal partnerships and shared decision making are a priority reforms under Closing the Gap, which seeks formal partnership arrangements in place between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments in place in each state and territory enshrining agreed joint decision-making roles and responsibilities and where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have chosen their own representatives.</p> <p>The transformation of government as agreed in the Priority Reforms has been progressed in a variety of ways.</p> <p><u>Policy Partnerships</u></p> <p>Policy Partnerships embed shared decision making formally established under Closing the Gap. Five initial Policy Partnerships have been established - Justice; Early Childhood Care and Development; Social and Emotional Wellbeing; Languages; and Housing with additional Policy Partnerships being scoped for establishment. Policy Partnerships must have equal representation of Commonwealth and state and territory government members and Coalition of the Peaks and Independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members. The work undertaken by Policy Partnerships typically includes: commissioning research; engaging with experts and communities; developing policies, recommendations and action plans; developing and analysing data; developing funding proposals; producing reports; and undertaking reviews and evaluations. These policies and programs are designed to advance reconciliation in a tangible way, prioritising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, self-determination, respect and working with state, territory and local governments.</p> <p><u>Place Based Partnerships</u></p> <p>Six Place Based Partnerships being established under Closing the Gap which include representatives from the Commonwealth and State and Territory governments, alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners. These partnerships are a mechanism to establish a joined-up approach to areas that impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to drive progress against Closing the Gap Outcomes.</p> <p><u>Formal partnerships</u></p> <p>An increase in the number of formal partnerships between the Commonwealth Government and First Nations organisations. In 2024 there were 108 self-reported arrangements by government agencies working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners, of which 73 were new since 2023.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Under Closing the Gap government parties are required to review their broader partnership arrangements with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners to assess how they meet the partnership elements.</p> <p>The Australian Government undertakes a yearly stocktake and analysis of its partnerships for reporting to Joint Council. The yearly stocktake assesses where elements of strong partnership are being met and where they can be strengthened.</p> <p><u>National agreements</u></p> <p>A greater inclusion of First Nations priorities in mainstream national agreements. For example, the <i>National Skills Agreement</i> includes First Nations-specific funding, and the <i>Better and Fairer Schools Agreement — Full and Fair Funding 2025–2034</i> embedded shared decision-making processes from conception.</p> <p><u>Empowered Communities</u></p> <p>Empowered Communities is a First Nations designed and led model for shared decision-making and partnership with government agencies across Australia. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples bring their local expertise and on-the-ground insights to shape priorities, investment and services and help close the gap in their regions.</p> <p>The partnership approach adopted through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy delivers programs that are flexible and better designed to meet the aspirations of individual communities. With priorities closely aligned to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) principles of employment, land, children and schooling, family and wellbeing, housing, culture and capability and equitable access to services, the Indigenous Advancement Strategy is supporting the fundamental human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p><u>UNDRIP</u></p> <p>Since endorsing UNDRIP in 2009, the Australian Government has adopted the guiding principles in its programs and policies and approach to engagement and collaboration. The Australian Government seeks to enhance the fundamental human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and supports their individual and collective rights, including rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health and education. To recognise these rights, the Australian Government has introduced a range of programs and policies co designed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See also recommendations 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>This recommendation is aligned with the principles and practices of Aboriginal Affairs NSW's Local Decision Making and the Opportunity, Choice, Healing, Responsibility, Empowerment Framework, and engagement with Stolen Generations organisations.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>In February 2025, the NT and Commonwealth Governments entered into a six-year tripartite Partnership Agreement to support the delivery of \$842.6 million into remote service delivery in Aboriginal communities of the NT. This investment is a continuation of previous shorter-term funding arrangements and is aligned with Closing the Gap. This is based on operationalising of the four Priority Reforms: <i>Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision Making; Building the Aboriginal Community Controlled Sector; Transforming Government Organisations; and Shared Access to Data and Information.</i></p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland's <i>Closing the Gap 2022 Stocktake of Partnership Arrangements</i>, required under Closing the Gap, highlights the strong partnerships that have been developed and implemented across government so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations have a direct say in how policy and programs are developed.</p> <p>In 2022, the Queensland Government signed Queensland's <i>Path to Treaty Commitment</i>. The Commitment is a collective pledge to be courageous and curious, open to hearing the truth of Queensland's history, and to work together to be ready to, and to make negotiating treaties, possible. Following the signing of the Commitment, the Queensland Government has worked with the Interim Truth and Treaty Body, made up of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and non-Indigenous representatives, to continue to progress Path to Treaty.</p> <p>In 2023, the Queensland Government passed the <i>Path to Treaty Act 2023 (Qld)</i>, a landmark Act for Queensland co-designed with the Interim Truth and Treaty Body. The Act provides for a First Nations Treaty Institute to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to prepare for treaty negotiations and the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry to hear and record the historical and ongoing impacts of colonisation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. The next steps on Path to Treaty will build community understanding of Queensland's shared history and support the process of healing for individuals, communities, and Queensland, and set out a way forward for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Queensland Government to work together towards a future treaty or treaties.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA's state-based <i>Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2024–26</i> sets out how SA will deliver on Closing the Gap. This second plan builds on the first Implementation Plan agreed in 2021 and outlines our shared approach to addressing the needs, priorities and circumstances of Aboriginal people and communities in SA. It describes our partnership actions, and how we will achieve the Closing the Gap Priority Reforms.</p> <p>SA's delivery of our Closing the Gap strategies is overseen by a formal Partnership Agreement between the SA Government and the SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network. In addition, SA's First Nations Voice to Parliament provides a formal mechanism for Aboriginal people in SA to have their views heard by parliament and government on the delivery of policies and strategies that impact on Aboriginal people.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania delivered two rounds of Closing the Gap Capacity Building grants across 2022–2023, supporting Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations at various stages of development, to increase their capacity to participate in local activity that supports Closing the Gap to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in Tasmania.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The development of Tasmania's draft Closing the Gap Plan 2025-2028 has been informed by extensive engagement with the Coalition of Peaks, individual local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, and alliances such as the Tasmanian Aboriginal Health Reference Group and the Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria's Partnership Forum on Closing the Gap (the Partnership Forum) was established in May 2022, comprising a Koorie Caucus – Ngaweeyan Maar-oo – and senior government officials, which ensures Aboriginal voices are leading the way on implementation of Closing the Gap. The Partnership Forum is Victoria's formal implementation partner under Closing the Gap. Victoria's next Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2025–2030 is being developed with the Partnership Forum, and the Partnership Forum holds the overarching accountability of the Closing the Gap Implementation Plan.</p> <p>The Victorian Government is also working in partnership with the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria – the democratically elected body representing First Peoples - to progress a well-supported, well-planned and transparent Treaty process that delivers meaningful outcomes for First Peoples. Victoria also has a variety of Aboriginal governance forums which are responsible for overseeing the development, implementation and direction of Aboriginal-led policy and service delivery agendas across portfolios including education, health and employment.</p> <p>The Victorian Government funds Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to deliver a range of self-determined projects.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The <i>Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy 2021–2029</i> developed in partnership with the Aboriginal Advisory Council of WA was the culmination of a deliberative process of reviewing the feedback of Aboriginal people to Government over many years, drawing on numerous reports and community engagement. The strategy provides a framework for Government policies, plans, initiatives and programs that contribute to better outcomes for Aboriginal people, built around genuine partnerships and engagement with Aboriginal stakeholders, strong accountability, and culturally responsive ways of working.</p> <p>The strategy requires Government agencies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Aboriginal people have a defined and systematic role in decision-making, proportional to the potential impacts or opportunities for Aboriginal people. • Support Aboriginal representation in decision-making and build the engagement capacity of both Aboriginal and Government participants. • Enable more decisions within Government agencies to be made at the regional or local level, enabling greater place-based engagement.
254, 257, 282	Continue to promote and strengthen the rights of indigenous people / take steps to revise national laws and policies to fully recognize	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51, 255, 256, 259, recognizing indigenous Australians in the Constitution

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	and protect the rights of indigenous peoples/Recognize the legal status of the indigenous peoples to ensure full protection of their rights (<i>Sudan, India, Mauritius</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
258	Put an end to the violation of the human rights of indigenous people and ethnic and vulnerable groups, eradicating racist and discriminatory practices in public bodies (<i>Estonia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. The Australian Government believes all people are entitled to respect, equality, dignity and is committed to ensuring its human rights framework protect human rights. All jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p>Australian governments condemn racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and have taken a multifaceted approach to address complex experiences of racism in the community.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds.
260	Continue to implement indigenous education reforms (<i>Slovakia</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>A number of outcomes under the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) are to improve education outcomes for First Nations people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3 – Children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years. • Outcome 4 – Children thrive in their early years. • Outcome 5 – Students achieve their full learning potential. • Outcome 6 – Students reach their full potential through further education pathways. • Outcome 7 – Youth are engaged in employment or education. <p>The Australian Government recognises that the most effective strategies to address Indigenous disadvantage are developed in partnership with First Nations people and organisations. We continue to work in partnership with First Nations partners, including the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care and all levels of government to ensure sustained progress over the life of Closing the Gap's education targets.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Australian Government has committed more than \$145 million to initiatives that support First Nations children, students, and organisations. This includes new funding for peak education body, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation, development of a new First Nations Education Policy, and investment in targeted programs to address the education gap for First Nations students. Programs include support for the Clontarf Foundation, supporting First Nations boys and young men to engage in education, the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation and GO Foundation providing scholarships for First Nations students and a range of other programs that support First Nations students in primary and secondary years.</p> <p>In the 2024–25 Budget, the Australian Government committed to the development of a new First Nations Education Policy (the Policy) in partnership with key First Nations education stakeholders. Development of the Policy is funded to 2026–27. The Policy will aim to define the national direction for First Nations education and support the acceleration of outcomes for First Nations students across Australia.</p> <p>In 2024–25 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$2.4 million over three years to 2026–27 to work in close partnership with First Nations stakeholders to support the development and implementation of the First Nations Teacher Strategy. The Strategy aims to attract, support and retain more First Nations people into teaching roles and build cultural responsiveness across education settings.</p> <p>Early Childhood Care and Development Policy Partnerships support genuine and shared decision making by bringing together government and First Nations representatives to develop recommendations to improve early childhood outcomes for First Nations children and families. From January 2026, families caring for a First Nations child will be guaranteed 100 hours of subsidised early childhood education and care per fortnight.</p> <p>In 2024–25 the Australian Government is investing \$317.3 million through the <i>Indigenous Advancement Strategy</i> (IAS) Children and Schooling program. IAS Children and Schooling investments aim to improve childhood development and education outcomes for First Nations children and young people and complement responsibilities of mainstream and jurisdictional agencies particularly in remote and very remote locations. Activities are place-based, reflect community needs, can support on-Country learning and extend the range of education options available locally. Some examples of activities delivered through the IAS Children and Schooling program include Junior Rangers, Indigenous Boarding Provider grants, School Nutrition Projects and early childhood development activities.</p> <p>The Commonwealth also continues to deliver over \$1.5 billion funding for Free TAFE and vocational education across Australia from 2023–26 to assist First Nations people acquire skills in areas experiencing significant skills shortage.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 204, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history and the impact of colonization in the education curricula • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

		<p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p>In Australia’s federal system, states and territories have primary responsibility for primary and secondary education in their respective jurisdictions. Australia’s states and territories continue to deliver programs and initiatives to improve education outcomes for First Nations people as part of the Closing the Gap targets.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>In the ACT, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 3 to 5 years old can access 15 hours per week of culturally safe early learning through Koori Preschools. In addition, an Early Childhood Strategy for the ACT, which is a codesign process, supports the evolution of Koori Preschool in the ACT.</p> <p>The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Whole of Government Agreement focus area actions Lifelong Learning, Economic Participation and Children and Young People align with this recommendation. The agreement has been aligned to Closing the Gap. The ACT Government efforts include coordinating actions, programs and engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to ensure culturally responsive education. The ACT has also committed to ensuring culturally inclusive education in early childhood settings through expanded delivery of Koori preschool, and access to professional learning in culturally inclusive and responsive practices to the early childhood sector.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>In 2023, the Productivity Commissions data demonstrates that 97.6 per cent of NSW Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in preschool in the Year Before Full-time Schooling. This is exceeding the target of 95 per cent by 2.6 per cent.</p> <p>The NSW Department of Education is working towards achieving Closing the Gap Targets 3, 5, 7 and 9 through an education-focused approach. NSW remains dedicated to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and students at every stage of learning by investing in, and delivering high quality, culturally responsive initiatives. These initiatives provide tailored support to students throughout their education journey. Strong partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations are essential to advancing priority reform areas and driving meaningful progress towards Closing the Gap targets.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Remote Aboriginal Investment Funds Initiative enhances education outcomes for children, students and families in remote and very remote communities.</p> <p>The NT Department of Education and Training focuses on fostering strong working relationships with the community, implementing visible support mechanisms and helping schools become more culturally responsive and to support schools on their improvement journey. The Community Engagement and Local Decision-Making branch is responsible for building strong partnerships with students, families, communities, and industry across the NT.</p> <p>The NT Government is also prioritising indigenous education reforms by prioritising raising school attendance through the School Attendance Officers to support student reengagement and hold parents accountable for non-attendance. In addition, the NT government is reforming secondary education to support the creation of pathways to real jobs. To support the creation of pathways to real jobs, the NT Government is reforming secondary education including increasing access in remote schools and delivering a high quality and flexible vocational Education and training system for all Territorians.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p>
--	--	--

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Queensland Department of Education's <i>Equity and Excellence: realising the potential of every student</i> strategy supports achievement of the Closing the Gap Targets with a focus on educational achievement, wellbeing and engagement, and cultural and inclusion. The priority areas of this strategy have a focus on outcomes for Aboriginal students and Torres Strait Islander students.</p> <p>Under this Strategy, the Queensland Government provides free access to kindergarten for First Nations children and is committed to ensuring children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years. Queensland has made significant progress and has achieved full participation of First Nations children in kindergarten (over 100 per cent).</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In SA, education programs focus on partnerships, cultural safety, language support, and successful transitions for Aboriginal students. They include the <i>Closing the Gap Implementation Plan</i>, and working with the SA Aboriginal Education and Training Consultative Council, the Aboriginal Community Controlled peak body established to support improved educational opportunities for children and young people.</p> <p>In partnership with the SA Aboriginal Education and Training Consultative Council, the Department for Education is undertaking a reset of its strategic direction on Aboriginal outcomes, underpinned by a governance model that embeds Aboriginal voices. The <i>Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019–2029</i> and <i>Strategy for Public Education</i> also align with this recommendation.</p> <p>The SA Office for Early Childhood Development is working in partnership with Aboriginal leadership and communities to codesign and invest in culturally safe services and initiatives for Aboriginal children, so they retain and increase the benefits of 3-year-old preschool; investing in early childhood education and care Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations; and aligning Closing the Gap initiatives with outcomes for early childhood.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government's Aboriginal Education Service develops strategies, resources, policies and guidelines to support Closing the Gap in educational outcomes for Aboriginal Learners, and teaching of truth of Tasmania's history to all learners. This work is guided by Tasmania's <i>Aboriginal Education Framework</i> and acknowledges Tasmania's unique socio-cultural context. It responds to the <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Strategy</i>.</p> <p>Tasmania works to build a deeper understanding and respect for Tasmanian Aboriginal history and living culture in schools, Child and Family Learning Centres, and Libraries. This is achieved by providing a range of professional learning opportunities, quality resources and support services to staff and students across the Department.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government's Aboriginal Education Service employs a range of Aboriginal educators to support staff, students, and the Aboriginal community. Aboriginal Education Workers are appointed in Tasmanian Government schools and work with principals and teachers to support Aboriginal learners.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The 2024–25 State Budget committed \$51 million to support the future of First Nations students in Victoria, increasing First Nations-led decision making in education, and increasing knowledge and understanding of Victoria’s history. This builds on previous funding for programs that support excellence, equity and wellbeing for First Nations students.</p> <p>Victoria continues to implement indigenous education reforms, focusing on self-determination, cultural inclusion and improved outcomes for First Nations students through the delivery of <i>Marrung: Aboriginal Education Plan 2016–2026</i> (Marrung). Marrung provides a coordinated approach to embedding the Closing the Gap education targets and broader self-determination efforts across education platforms and initiatives.</p> <p><u>Western Australia</u></p> <p>WA is working at a system level to strengthen its cultural responsiveness, in alignment with the WA Government’s Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy and the priority reform areas of Closing the Gap. An Aboriginal Advisory Body comprising Aboriginal parents and community members has recently been established to provide cultural advice to the Department and Minister for Education to strengthen education outcomes for Aboriginal students.</p>
261	Address persisting disparities faced by indigenous peoples and ensure equal rights and protection for both indigenous and non-indigenous Australians (<i>Sri Lanka</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 83, multiculturalism and diversity in the country, racism among school children • 92, reducing poverty and disadvantage • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 204, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ history and the impact of colonization in the education curricula • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 276, socioeconomic situation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by meaningful and effective political participation • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
262	Follow up on the report on the 2017 visit of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in consultation with the communities concerned (<i>Switzerland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>The former Special Rapporteur, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, visited Australia from 20 March to 3 April 2017 and released her final report on 7 August 2017. The Australian Government is making progress against many of the concerns that were raised in Ms Tauli-Corpuz's report.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 122, end systemic police brutality against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 202, health care for children with disabilities and for those living in rural or remote areas • 203, health services in the rural and remote areas • 204, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history and the impact of colonization in the education curricula • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
263	Continue the good practice of consulting with indigenous peoples during policy formulation, in order to further protect their rights and build an inclusive society	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendation 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>
264-268	Continue implement the Closing the Gap strategy, while ensuring shared decision-making and genuine partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, to improve the situation of indigenous peoples and reduce their	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendation 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	social gaps with the rest of population (<i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Estonia</i>)		
269, 270	Continue to work towards narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians and reduce inequalities, with a special focus on better access to health, education and employment opportunities (<i>Republic of Korea, Singapore</i>)	Accepts	<p>Partially implemented</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>Improving health outcomes</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) Target One and Target Two are that everyone enjoys healthy lives and children are born healthy and strong. To address racism within the health sector, the Australian Government has implemented the <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2021–2031</i> (Health Plan), including the establishment of The First Nations Health Governance Group to ensure codesign is embedded in planning, implementation and evaluation of First Nations health outcomes.</p> <p>The Health Plan sets out a nationally agreed policy framework to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for First Nations people. The First Nations Health Governance Group was established in November 2024 and seeks to identify and address systemic racism and discrimination in the health system, enact oversight of and accountability for First Nations health outcomes, and advise on embedding the Priority Reforms within the Australian Government.</p> <p>First Nations health leaders co-designed the Health Plan and the <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan 2021–2031</i> (Workforce Plan) in partnership with the Commonwealth. Accountability for the implementation and outcomes under these plans is overseen by the First Nations Health Governance Group, which embeds shared decision making in the design, delivery and review of First Nations health policies and programs.</p> <p>Through these plans, First Nations decision-making sets the strategic priorities to close the gap in life expectancy, including the allocation of \$4.8 billion over four years (2022–23 to 2025–26) through the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme. Both plans give practical effect to Closing the Gap Priority Reforms and embed First Nations leadership in governance and accountability mechanisms within the health sector. These plans will contribute to ensuring First Nations access to data to support shared decision making is achieved.</p> <p>The Australian Government committed \$49 million over five years (2021–22 to 2025–26) to design frontline service delivery models in partnership with First Nations organisations to better support First Nations families with multiple and complex needs with the aim of reducing the number of First Nations children coming into child protection systems.</p> <p>The Improving Multidisciplinary Responses (IMR) Program aims to enhance and support holistic responses to First Nations families with multiple and complex needs in culturally, geographically and socially diverse contexts to overcome risk factors that may lead to child abuse and neglect. IMR will support the growth and development of First Nations workforce in community and other settings to design activities that enables the delivery of holistic, co-ordinated and culturally centred</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>services to children and families. As a result, improved family functioning can be expected leading to better access and uptake of education</p> <p>The Australian Government funds a national network of 120 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, to deliver, comprehensive, culturally appropriate primary health care for First Nations people. Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services work to meet specific local needs, working closely with broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations in mental health, disability and aged care.</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to progress a significant program of work to address Closing the Gap targets, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around \$654.4 million has been committed over four years to improve First Nations people’s health outcomes through the May 2023 Budget. • Around \$314.5 million from 2022–23 through First Nations election commitments in the October 2022 Budget. • In 2022–23, expenditure under the Indigenous Australians Health Program was \$1,111 million for First Nations programs and activities. <p>The <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy 2025–2035</i>, developed in partnership with Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia – the national peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing, mental health, and suicide prevention in Australia – aims to achieve a significant and sustained reduction in suicide and self-harm of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples towards zero through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community leadership and governance.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT advances Closing the Gap through the <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019–2028</i>, prioritising health, education, and employment equity. Through partnership between Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations, the ACT Government, and the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, these efforts drive economic development, support self-determination, and address systemic inequalities to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW Government is committed to Closing the Gap in health outcome disparity between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Direct ministerial-approved recurrent funding for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations is \$45 million in 2024-2025. NSW supports 41 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to meet the health needs of Aboriginal people.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>In 2024, NSW Health launched three new plans to improve Aboriginal health outcomes including the <i>NSW Aboriginal Health Plan 2024-34</i>, the <i>NSW Aboriginal Health Governance, Shared Decision Making and Accountability Framework</i> and the <i>Reconciliation Action Plan</i>.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Department of Health is a member of the Northern Territory Aboriginal Health Forum (NTAHF) which serves as the principal partnership mechanism for Aboriginal health planning in the NT. The NTAHF supports health organisations across the NT in planning, information sharing, and coordinating their programs and activities.</p> <p>The NT Government maintains a Child and Youth Development Research Partnership with Menzies School of Health Research. This partnership's objectives include supporting a program of research that informs policy and program development in the areas of child development, family support, education and the wellbeing of children and young people, alongside the evaluation of strategies and programs for child and youth health, education and wellbeing and family functioning in the NT. The Department of Education and Training's policies support the inclusion and engagement of all students in education, a key social determinant of health. These include Health of Students, Disability, Student Wellbeing and Positive Behaviours and Families as First Teachers</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In 2025, the Queensland Government allocated a total of \$108 million to deliver the Closing the Gap Priorities Fund. The Fund supports the delivery of practical initiatives for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples with a focus on those living in Queensland remote and discrete communities. Further, the Queensland government is committed to increasing home ownership opportunities in Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council to deliver the Palm Island Home Ownership Scheme.</p> <p>Through the <i>First Nations First Strategy 2032</i> and health equity-related legislation, Queensland Health is accelerating reform to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for and with First Nations people in Queensland. These initiatives aim to eliminate racism, re-shape the system, transform care and strengthen the workforce.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>SA's <i>Aboriginal Health Care Framework 2023–2031</i> aims to deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal South Australians through a whole of sector partnership approach. SA has established governance to drive the health actions under the <i>SA Implementation Plan for Closing the Gap</i> to meet all deliverables and Closing the Gap Priority Reforms for Aboriginal people.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian <i>Closing the Gap Plan 2025–2028</i> includes actions to improve the lives of Aboriginal people across all 17 socio-economic outcomes of Closing the Gap. The Tasmanian Government has delivered a range of actions under Tasmania's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan to contribute to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal people in Tasmania (Outcomes 1,2,4 and 14).</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Tasmanian Government is also delivering key actions under the <i>Improving Aboriginal Cultural Respect Across Tasmania's Health System Action Plan 2020–2026</i>, including establishment of shared or Aboriginal led governance arrangements, and leadership and engagement of Aboriginal stakeholders in monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria is committed to improving First Nations People's health outcomes through a self-determined process. The Victorian Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Partnership Forum is a strategic collaboration between the Aboriginal Community-controlled health sector, the mainstream health sector, and the Victorian Department of Health - with a shared vision of First Nations people accessing a health system that is self-determined, holistic and culturally safe. In addition, Domain 4 of <i>the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2018–2025</i> commits the Victorian Government to promoting First Nations People's health and wellbeing including through improving First Nations people's health status, quality of life and life expectancy.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Department of Health continues its commitment to Closing the Gap, working in partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and other State Government agencies to address the gap in life expectancy and to increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies with a healthy birthweight.</p> <p>Systemwide implementation of the 7 High-Impact Actions and Recommendations from the WA Aboriginal Health Executive Roundtable is underway, with the aim of elevating the Cultural Determinants of health and addressing racism.</p> <p>Improving employment outcomes</p> <p>The Australian Government has established a new First Nations Economic Partnership (Economic Partnership). The Economic Partnership will support participation by First Nations representatives in collaborative policy development. The Economic Partnership is an example of the Australian Government's commitment to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, to work in partnership, invest in the First Nations community-controlled sector, and transform mainstream systems to achieve better outcomes for First Nations people.</p> <p><u>Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program, and the new Remote Australia Employment service</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to continuing to close the gap in employment for First Nations people by creating employment opportunities, supporting economic development and continuing to offer wrap around support services. In remote Australia, the Community Development Program is being replaced in two stages. The first stage is the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) Program, creating 3,000 new jobs over three years until 2027. The second stage is the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES) which will start on 1 November 2025 and support job seekers to build their skills and address barriers to employment. Both RJED and RAES are available for all job seekers in remote Australia and contribute to Closing the Gap to the extent they support First Nations job seekers and employees.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u> In 2024 the ACT partnered with a local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation to deliver the Aunty Agnes Shea Scholarship program. The scholarship program aims to increase the qualifications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff working in Koori Preschool and early childhood education and care services and aims to attract Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to join the early childhood profession.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u> NSW Education is developing a 10-year Workforce Strategy to attract, retain and support Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait employees. Closing the Gap targets and indicators support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full learning potential and through further education pathways.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u> The NT Government drives a focus on the employment, development and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers and educators to actively grow and strengthen the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teacher and educational professional workforce to deliver services to students and the community, and improve student outcomes. Overall, the department has committed to increasing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce to 21.6 per cent and 10 per cent representation in senior roles by December 2025. Initiatives to support delivering on the commitments to increase the Aboriginal workforce include the Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education (RATE) program and the Aboriginal Team Teacher permanency strategy. RATE builds capacity of Aboriginal educators in remote schools at every stage of their careers, while creating opportunities for those who aspire to become qualified classroom teachers.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u> The Aboriginal Youth Pathways to Employment Program is being delivered by the RAW Group, a 100 per cent Aboriginal owned and Australian company, in partnership with the Department of Human Services. The program is a culturally safe training and employment initiative for Aboriginal young people in contact with the youth justice system. It provides opportunities and support for participants to upskill and obtain paid employment in the building, civil and construction industry.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u> The Victorian Government is committed to empowering First Nations people to fully participate in the economy and self-determine their economic future. The <i>Aboriginal Employment and Economic Strategy – Yuma Yirramboi (Invest in Tomorrow)</i> is a bold plan to address inequality and build Aboriginal economic parity within a generation. The Victorian Government, recognising the inherent rights of First Peoples, is making long term, sustained investment in supporting education, employment, wealth creation and prosperity for Aboriginal Victorians.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
271	Investigate the disadvantages that indigenous populations face in education, incarceration and life expectancy (<i>United States of America</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 136, 137, overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
275	Abolish laws and policies with a discriminatory impact on the human rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and ensure the effective access of said communities to decision-making in all areas that affect them, including in land and water management and tackling climate change, among others (<i>Cuba</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap) is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>All jurisdictions have comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that implement rights to non-discrimination and equality. All jurisdictions also have a board or commission that oversees human rights and anti-discrimination, with functions that include the determination or conciliation of complaints of discrimination brought under legislation operating in the particular jurisdiction, and human rights education and awareness-raising.</p> <p><u>Land and water management</u></p> <p>Under Target 15 of Closing the Gap, a number of programs and policies have been established to increase for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connection to land and sea.</p> <p>In 2024, the Australian Government provided \$20.2 million over 4 years from 2024–25 to the Federal Court of Australia and the National Native Title Tribunal to help progress native title claims under <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth). This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$12.4 million over four years (and \$2.4 million ongoing) for the Federal Court to address the backlog of native title claims by expanding the delivery of its successful First Nations-led case management and mediation model. • \$4.5 million over four years (and \$1.1 million ongoing) for the National Native Title Tribunal to deliver its post-determination dispute resolution function. • \$3.3 million over three years for the Federal Court and National Native Title Tribunal to digitise and preserve thousands of culturally and historically significant native title records. <p>In March 2022, the Australian Government committed an additional \$575.5 million to 30 June 2028 in grant funding to double the number of rangers under the existing Indigenous Rangers Program. The Program supports First Nations people to manage Country in accordance with the objectives of Traditional Owners. Indigenous rangers use traditional knowledge and</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>cultural practices, combined with modern conservation techniques, working with their communities to ensure that traditional ecological knowledge for the management of Country is passed onto future generations. Rangers also work with a wide a range of stakeholders, including government and non-government partners to provide invaluable protection of Australia's natural resources and biosecurity interests.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56, protection of cultural sites • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government accepts as agreed in Closing the Gap. In 2025, the ACT introduced the right to healthy environment in its <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT), which specifies that this right must be interpreted in conjunction with the cultural rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The right also explicitly includes a right to consultation on environmental policies. This is expected to create new opportunities and safeguards to ensure the consultation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in any environmental policymaking processes</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service recognises the connection Aboriginal people have with national parks and supports Aboriginal joint management of parks, with recognition of Aboriginal ownership/ connection, decision making and economic benefits. Currently, 2.33 million hectares (30 per cent) of the NSW national parks system is under a form of joint management. There are three forms of joint management, currently consisting of: 7 Aboriginal-owned parks under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> (NSW); 10 Indigenous Land Use Agreements under the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth); and 17 Memoranda of Understanding. Aboriginal joint management Custodians are involved in a reform process to consider and provide input on future joint management models.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>Around 50 per cent of the NT's land mass and 80 per cent of its coastline is covered by the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Northern Territory Act 1976</i> (Cth) (ALRA). The ALRA grants Traditional Owners exclusive and inalienable rights over their land and unrestricted access and control over this access.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> (Qld) and the <i>Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> (Qld) provides blanket protection of areas and objects of traditional, customary, and archaeological significance, recognise the key role of Traditional Owners in cultural heritage matters, and establishes practical and flexible processes for dealing with cultural</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>heritage in a timely manner. The Queensland Government has also used the Native Title system to collaborate and negotiate with Torres Strait Islander people to ensure they have a voice to Government and a seat at the negotiation table.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) work in partnership with the First Peoples of South Australia and support their Nations to take a leading role caring for their Country. The DEW First Nations engagement guidelines are promoted across the department to ensure best practice.</p> <p>The co-management of SA national parks and conservation parks with Aboriginal Traditional Owners is an example of how the guidelines have been implemented. This partnership combines traditional knowledge with contemporary park management. There are currently 13 co-management arrangements covering 37 parks. This covers 65 per cent of the state's parks, which equates to 13 per cent of the total land area of South Australia. The State Government is also committed to further increasing the number of co-managed parks with Aboriginal traditional owners.</p> <p>Water allocation plans are being reviewed and amended, SA's Landscape Boards are engaging Aboriginal communities in their regions to ensure that the objectives of Aboriginal peoples are better reflected in the plans and there are greater provisions for cultural water.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>As a signatory to Closing the Gap, Tasmania is committed to implementing four Priority Reforms. The <i>Closing the Gap Tasmanian Implementation Plan</i> includes actions and initiatives to implement Priority Reform Three, which involves transforming government practices and eliminating institutional racism.</p> <p>Tasmania's draft <i>Closing the Gap Plan 2025–2028</i> has partnership and shared decision-making as its first priority for reform. Tasmania is preparing new Aboriginal cultural heritage protection legislation that will improve protections and give Aboriginal people the primary decision-making roles in determining how their heritage is managed.</p> <p>Tasmanian Government engages with Tasmanian Aboriginal organisations and people on Inland Water targets, working closely with the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania.</p> <p>Tasmania's <i>Climate Change Action Plan 2023–25</i> outlines the Tasmanian Government's plans for action on climate change and includes an action of 'Incorporating Tasmanian Aboriginal knowledge'.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government has committed to reforming the <i>Aboriginal Lands Act 1970 (Vic)</i>. While the Act is historic in returning land ownership to the First Nations communities at Framlingham and Lake Tyers, it is now outdated and inadequate at promoting self-determination, enabling good governance, and economic independence for the communities. The Victorian Government has committed to implementing the recommendations of a recent independent review into the Act and will commence community engagement on further reform opportunities to advance Aboriginal self-determination, self-governance and land rights.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, under the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth), Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) are a key mechanism to reach agreement with Aboriginal communities and traditional owners regarding decision-making in relation to land and water management. A number of state significant ILUAs have been reached and continue to be implemented with significant land and water related outcomes for traditional owners.</p> <p>The WA Government will continue its commitment to divesting the properties held in the Aboriginal Lands Trust estate, covering approximately 21.9 million hectares, into the direct control of Aboriginal people.</p> <p>WA's Aboriginal heritage laws are supported by consultation guidelines for proponents to engage with Traditional Owners. The approvals process for impacting Aboriginal heritage includes a procedural fairness process seeking the views of the native title parties and knowledge holders.</p>
276	<p>Improve the socioeconomic situation of indigenous peoples by ensuring their meaningful and effective political participation (<i>Denmark</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is actively working to improve socioeconomic outcomes of First Nations people by ensuring their meaningful and effective political participation.</p> <p>First Nations Impact Statements</p> <p>The Australian Government has introduced a requirement for all drafting agencies to conduct First Nations Impact Statements for all new policy proposals. These statements require policymakers to consider the potential impacts of new policies on First Nations communities early in the development process. This approach ensures that the voices and perspectives of First Nations people are actively sought out and considered in policy decisions, promoting more inclusive and effective outcomes. The First Nations Impact Framework supports this process by providing resources and guidance for culturally appropriate engagement and impact analysis.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 174, freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, religion, and the right to vote • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
278	<p>Continue steps to ensure that the housing needs of indigenous Australians are met (<i>Georgia</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Partially implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government provides significant funding to housing through the \$43 billion 'Homes for Australia Plan', with the states and territories responsible for the provision of housing and related services.</p> <p>The Australian Government recognises that access to suitable, appropriate, and affordable housing is fundamental to improving the lives of First Nations people. Additionally, all levels of Government have signed up to the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> (Closing the Gap), which includes Outcome 9 – that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness</i> (NASHH), has allocated \$9.3 billion in funding from 2024–2029 to states and territories to provide homelessness crisis support, and to build and repair social housing. First Nations people</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>are the only priority cohort specified in the NASHH, which aims to address the disproportionate housing inequality that continues to affect First Nations people.</p> <p>Additionally, \$200 million, over five years from 2024–2029, has been dedicated as part of the Housing Australia Future Fund for the repairs, maintenance, and improvements of housing in remote Indigenous communities in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government is working with key stakeholders in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, National Regulatory System for Community Housing, Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) and community to realise housing solutions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The ACT Government is supporting ACCOs to provide services they want to provide community, including crisis or transitional housing with wraparound support, long term social housing and development of new affordable rentals.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In March 2024, the Australian and NT governments announced a landmark joint investment of \$4 billion over 10 years to improve housing in remote communities. This investment aims to deliver up to 2,700 houses and a comprehensive repairs and maintenance program, with the goal of halving overcrowding in Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>In June 2024, a historic 10-year remote housing partnership agreement was signed. The agreement represents a collaborative approach to addressing housing needs across 73 remote communities. The partnership includes representatives from Aboriginal Housing NT and the four NT Aboriginal Land Councils</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Government has committed to increasing home ownership opportunities in Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and is currently working with the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council to deliver the Palm Island Home Ownership Scheme.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Through the <i>Tasmanian Housing Strategy Action Plan 2023–2027</i>, Tasmania has committed to support and enable the Closing the Gap peak to lead a state-wide Tasmanian Aboriginal housing review and the development of a creative, holistic, and culturally responsive state-wide Tasmanian Aboriginal housing policy and action plan.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Coalition of Peaks partner is leading a review of Aboriginal housing in Tasmania that will result in a new Strategy and Action Plan; the Action Plan will be consistent with achieving Targets 9a and 9b in Closing the Gap.</p> <p>Tasmania's first 20-year Tasmanian Housing Strategy was established in 2023, setting the ambitious vision to end homelessness by improving the entire housing system and ensuring all Tasmanians have access to safe, appropriate and affordable housing.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The SA <i>Aboriginal Housing Strategy 2021–2031</i> aims to deliver substantial reform and benefits for Aboriginal people in SA by providing opportunities for home ownership and economic participation, access to culturally responsive and appropriate services, and by supporting implementation of self-determination and self-governance that will strengthen the capability of Aboriginal corporations and organisations.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria is on track to meet its targets relating to housing under Closing the Gap. The Victorian Government launched <i>Mana-na worn-tyeen maar-takoort: Every Aboriginal Person Has A Home</i> in 2020, otherwise known as the <i>Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework</i> (VAHFF). The VAHFF provides a reform pathway to address housing and homelessness inequalities experienced by First Peoples. The VAAHF is made up of 38 First Nations people member organisations, who are working with the Victorian government to deliver on the VAAHF's key targets surrounding social housing and developing an Aboriginal homelessness target specific to Victoria.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In 2023, the WA Government established the Remote Communities Fund which commits \$140 million for housing refurbishments and new houses in remote Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>In 2024, the WA Government received \$25 million from the Housing Australia Future Fund for repairs, maintenance and improvements to housing in remote Aboriginal communities. The funding will be delivered through partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.</p>
279	Redouble the efforts to guarantee the fundamental human rights of indigenous peoples, paying particular attention to indigenous children by ensuring access to quality education, as well as to indigenous peoples in the workplace, since they remain disproportionately vulnerable to unemployment (<i>Holy See</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australia has an enduring commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. This is reflected in our significant and longstanding approaches to human rights domestically and internationally. The Australian Government believes all people are entitled to respect, equality, dignity and is committed to ensuring its human rights framework protect human rights.</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
280	Take further measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in order to reduce social inequality experienced by indigenous peoples (<i>Ireland</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Australia considers all recommendations made by treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and responds to those recommendations in good faith through the reporting process and interim follow up procedures.</p>
281	Take targeted action to protect indigenous women and children from family, domestic and sexual violence by increasing options for support (<i>Marshall Islands</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Ending violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children is a national priority. Both primary prevention and providing support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children are national priority areas under the <i>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–2032</i>.</p> <p>See recommendations 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls.</p>
283	Develop, in consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples, measures to guarantee their access to education, health, employment and social security (<i>Mexico</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 260, education reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
284, 287	Ensure that education strategies for indigenous Australians include the preservation of their cultural and linguistic heritages (<i>Myanmar, New Zealand</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australia is committed to ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and languages are strong, supported and fundamental. Targets 15 and 16 of the <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> provides that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples relationship to land and water, native title recognition and revitalisation of First Nations languages and culture are strong, supported and flourishing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15a & 15b aims for a 15 per cent increase in Australia's land and sea mass in areas covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples' legal rights or interests.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target 16 aims for a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken by 2031. <p>Culture and language</p> <p>Under Target 16 ensure 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing'.</p> <p><u>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Policy Partnership</u></p> <p>The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Policy Partnership (LPP) was established in 2022. The LPP brings together Commonwealth, state and territory governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives to drive action for Target 16. The objective of the LPP is to ensure that governments are listening to the priorities of communities and responding in an appropriate, joined-up cohesive manner. The Commonwealth has provided \$22 million over 6 years (2022-23 to 2027-28) to support the partnership approach.</p> <p><u>Voices of Country</u></p> <p>Further, a priority action under Target 16 is <i>Voices of Country – Australia's Action Plan for the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022–2032</i>, which provides a framework to guide Australia's participation in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.</p> <p>Voices of Country is guided by the Australian Government's <i>National Cultural Policy Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place</i>. Revive was released in January 2023 and recognises and respects the critical place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories at the centre of Australia's arts and culture. Key measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing stand-alone legislation to protect First Nations knowledge and cultural expressions, including to address the harm caused by fake art, merchandise and souvenirs. Establishing a First Nations Languages Policy Partnership between first Nations representatives and Australian governments to improve outcomes for First Nations people. <p><u>Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies</u></p> <p>The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) leads the Return of Culture Heritage (RoCH) program which supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to affirm their custodianship of their cultural heritage. AIATSIS has partnered with 20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities on 35 projects to return 2292 treasures to Australia. In May 2024, the Australian Government announced ongoing funding for the RoCH program. This funding, \$10.4 million over 4 years from 2024–25, is a continuation of the funding level determined in July 2020 for the RoCH Initiative (2020–2024).</p> <p><u>Indigenous Ranger Programs</u></p> <p>In March 2022, the Australian Government committed an additional \$575.5 million to 30 June 2028 in grant funding to double the number of Rangers under the existing the Indigenous Rangers Program. The Program assists First Nations people</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>to care for their country. Indigenous rangers use traditional knowledge and cultural practices, combined with modern conservation techniques, working with their communities to ensure that traditional ecological knowledge for the management of Country is passed onto future generations. Rangers also work with a wide a range of stakeholders, including government and non-government partners to provide invaluable protection of Australia's natural resources and biosecurity interests.</p> <p>Australian curriculum</p> <p>The Australian Government recognises the importance of supporting the learning and teaching of First Nations languages. The Australian Government has committed \$53.8 million over four years from 2024 to increase the number of First Nations language speakers through enhanced support for community language learning and new language centres. The Australian Government further supports First Nations languages through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3 million to deliver 20+ Indigenous Languages Preservation Dictionaries from 2018–19 to 2026–27. • \$1.6 million to date for the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation's Living First Languages Platform. <p>The Australian Government is also committed to supporting First Nations-led, on-Country education programs. In the 2024-25 to 2027-28 financial years, \$61 million has been allocated to expand the Junior Ranger Program to 60 new locations nationally, including five new locations in Central Australia.</p> <p>See also recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56, protection of cultural sites • 204, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history and the impact of colonization in the education curricula • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government continues to strengthen its cultural integrity to meet the needs and aspirations of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and to support all students and staff to deepen their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, languages, and knowledge. The ACT Government does this by offering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-specific professional learning opportunities, including for educators working in early childhood settings, as well as working with the Winanggaay Language Group to support the revitalisation of the Ngunnawal language.</p> <p>Through a co-design process with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, the ACT has established the <i>Set up for Success: An Early Childhood Strategy</i> for the ACT developed a collection of Koori Frameworks that support the evolution of Koori Preschools in the ACT. Currently, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 3–5 years can access 15 hours per week of culturally safe early learning through Koori Preschools.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>NSW curriculum reform has prioritised the teaching of Aboriginal histories and cultures across all syllabuses, in line with the 2020 <i>NSW Curriculum Review</i> (recommendation 5.3). Mandatory Aboriginal Cultures and histories content in the Human</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Society and Its Environment (HSIE) Kindergarten to Year 10 curriculum has been carefully sequenced to support students in developing a comprehensive understanding of Aboriginal Peoples and Cultures in NSW.</p> <p>The NSW Department of Education is supporting the curriculum implementation process, designing a range of teaching and learning resources which have been developed in line with Aboriginal and Torres Strait principles and protocols and in consultation with Aboriginal Education and Communities.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In the NT, the Indigenous Languages and Cultures (ILC) curriculum provides the framework for the teaching and learning of First Nations languages and cultures in the NT. It has been designed in partnership with First Nations stakeholders through a deep collaborative process. The ILC supports schools to teach Aboriginal languages as a learning area and across the curriculum. In 2024, 49 schools reported on Aboriginal languages.</p> <p>The Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET) provides opportunities for students to study Aboriginal languages through both VET and NTCET learning. Communities are able to collaborate with schools to have Aboriginal cultural knowledge and learning recognised as part of NTCET completion.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Team Teacher permanency strategy sets out to retain highly valued Aboriginal educators and leaders with deep knowledge of local languages and context who motivate children and young people to engage in meaningful learning and achieve their educational goals.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Department of Education is developing educational resources to support building knowledge and understanding of the history, impact and legacy of the control policies on Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples under the former Protection Acts. These resources align with the Australian Curriculum cross-curriculum priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, and are on track to be published by the end of 2026.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The Department for Education in SA has refreshed its approach to <i>Workforce Strategy</i> to meet the evolving needs of public education, ensuring a framework that supports the entire workforce. At the heart of this strategy is a commitment to developing culturally responsive and inclusive working and learning environments where Aboriginal people feel valued, respected, and empowered to thrive. This commitment, underpinned by Aboriginal voice, is actioned through three key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embedding the <i>Culturally Responsive Framework</i> • growing and supporting Aboriginal workforce • upholding the zero-tolerance stance on racism. <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government's Aboriginal Education Service works to build a deeper understanding and respect for Tasmanian Aboriginal history and living culture in schools, Child and Family Learning Centres, and Libraries. The Orb, a culturally safe online resource aligned with the Australian Curriculum, provides teachers and students with reliable local historical and</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>cultural information. This has been developed by Aboriginal Education Services while being guided and reviewed by Tasmanian Aboriginal people.</p> <p>The <i>Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023</i> which includes the Universal Principle for Aboriginal Cultural Safety, which is the requirement for organisations to provide an environment that ensures the right to cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people is respected</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government is focused on supporting First Nations languages through facilitating the Victorian Aboriginal language education in kindergartens, schools, and Vocational Education and Training (VET) settings. In addition, The Victorian Aboriginal Languages curriculum provides opportunities for students to study Victorian Aboriginal Languages that are being revived by traditional owners in different stages of reclamation</p> <p>Further, the Victorian foundation year-10 curriculum incorporates Aboriginal language through the includes the <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures</i> 'cross-curriculum priority', which embeds First Nations culture, and language across all aspects of the curriculum for a holistic approach.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>WA is strengthening Aboriginal languages in schools to enhance the identity, self-esteem and engagement of Aboriginal students and incorporate Aboriginal knowledge within the mainstream curriculum.</p> <p>In 2022, as part of its commitment to the ongoing and necessary reclamation and revitalisation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, the WA School Curriculum and Standards Authority appointed a specialist Noongar language educator and consultant to develop the Pre-primary to Year 10 WA Aboriginal Languages: Wajarri (Languages Revival) Pre-primary to Year 10 syllabus to its offerings of Languages. The Authority supports schools with the development of other Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages, offering a curriculum template and assistance.</p>
289	Maintain programmes that promote the socioeconomic development of indigenous peoples (<i>Peru</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 276, socioeconomic situation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by meaningful and effective political participation

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
290	Ensure adequate resources for programmes aimed at raising health and quality-of-life indicators for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities (<i>Philippines</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 276, socioeconomic situation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by meaningful and effective political participation • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
291	Strengthen the efforts to realize the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples, in close consultation with indigenous peoples' representative bodies and civil society (<i>Portugal</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Australian governments are committed to delivering real and lasting improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have taken action to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>The <i>National Agreement on Closing the Gap</i> is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 269, 270, narrowing the gap in life outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, better access to health and employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 276, socioeconomic situation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by meaningful and effective political participation • 278, housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
295	Continue to enforce labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards (<i>Sudan</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Combatting the exploitation of temporary migrant workers</p> <p>The Australian Government has progressed a package of reforms to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers including:</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendments to the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth) (Fair Work Act) to criminalise wage theft, make it explicit that migrant workers in Australia are entitled to the benefit of the Fair Work Act regardless of their migration status, prohibit advertising jobs with rates of pay that would breach the Fair Work Act, and enhance the small claims procedure to make it more accessible for workers to claim their unpaid entitlements. • Funding of \$32.4 million over four years to implement the wage theft criminal offence, including funding for the Fair Work Ombudsman and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Fair Work Ombudsman is the independent regulator for Australia's national workplace relations system. • Three new criminal offences (under the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (Cth)) for using a person's visa status to exploit them in the workplace. This targets employers for coercing, unduly influencing or pressuring a non-citizen to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work in breach of a visa condition. ○ Accept an (exploitative) arrangement in relation to work (for fear of being reported to the Australian Government as an unlawful non-citizen). ○ Accept an (exploitative) arrangement in relation to work (fearing that if they don't accept the arrangement their visa may be cancelled, or they may not be able to meet the requirements of another visa). • A power to prohibit dishonest employers from employing additional temporary migrant workers for a period of time where that employer has engaged in serious, deliberate or repeated exploitation. • Increased penalties for non-compliance with employer obligations and new compliance tools to support a proportionate response to non-compliance. • Enhanced mobility provisions for temporary migrants under certain 'employer sponsored' programs, which make it easier for sponsored workers to leave an exploitative employer. • A Strengthening Reporting Protections Pilot, which provides protection from visa cancellation in prescribed circumstances, recognising the perverse consequences when dishonest employers use threats of visa cancellation to deter temporary migrants from speaking out and asserting their workplace rights and the need to also uphold immigration integrity • A Workplace Justice Visa Pilot, to enable migrant workers who have been exploited while working in Australia to extend their stay for a short period to effectively pursue workplace claims. • Options to address information and education gaps faced by migrant workers as they seek to understand and exercise their workplace rights <p>Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme</p> <p>The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme (PALM) is a temporary migration program that enables eligible Australian businesses to recruit from nine Pacific Island countries and Timor-Leste to fill unskilled, low, and semi-skilled position where there are not enough local workers available. The welfare and wellbeing of PALM workers is of central importance to</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Australia and to our Pacific and Timor-Leste partners. All PALM workers have the same work place entitlements and protections as other Australian workers.</p> <p>The Australian Government has invested \$440 million (2022–2027) to expand and improve the PALM scheme, including to strengthen its oversight of domestic operations to better protect and support workers while in Australia.</p> <p>The PALM scheme settings provide a level of protection for PALM scheme workers above legislated minimums, aligned to participating country expectation for protection of workers, recognising the work is performed in sectors at high risk for non-compliance with workplace laws, often in remote areas, and the mobility constraints within the program.</p> <p>The current PALM scheme Deed and Guidelines, introduced from June 2023, aim to balance the needs of employers with tailored protections for PALM scheme workers. The new settings improve PALM scheme worker experiences, reduce the risk of workers disengaging and help address risks of exploitation. The Australian Government continues to monitor PALM scheme settings to ensure they are working for all stakeholders.</p> <p>The Deed and Guidelines strengthen the Australian Government’s ability to target non-compliant employers and stamp out worker exploitation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased transparency for deductions, including for accommodation and transport costs. • Employer -led worker portability (with worker agreement) to ensure workers are offered sufficient hours in line with Deed requirements. • Strengthening minimum hour requirements. • PALM scheme employers must cover accommodation and transport costs for workers if workers are offered less than 20 hours of work in any week; costs cannot be recovered from workers. • Requirements for employers to have a welfare and wellbeing support person and welfare and wellbeing plan for all workers. • Requirement to register arriving workers for virtual presentations by Fair Work Ombudsman, Australia’s national workplace relations regulator, and invite relevant unions to arrival briefings. Employers are required to accommodate union attendance (e.g. via virtual means). • PALM scheme employers must ensure a weekly minimum take-home pay of \$200 each week. • Cultural competency training for PALM scheme employers and key personnel. • New grievance management processes and strengthened monitoring processes. <p>The Fair work Ombudsman and Department of Home Affairs have received additional funding to ensure they can continue to take appropriate action against operators in the PALM scheme where breaches are identified under Australian workplace laws and migration laws respectively.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
296	Step up efforts to ensure the rights of migrant workers while protecting them from discrimination, exploitation and intimidation (<i>Bangladesh</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making it explicit that migrant workers in Australia are entitled to the benefit of the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth) regardless of migration status. • Establishing new criminal offences and civil penalty provisions for using a person's migration status to exploit them in the workplace. • Introducing a new criminal offence for intentional wage theft and an increase of civil penalties for breaches of underpayment related provisions of the Fair Work Act. • A Workplace Justice visa pilot, to enable migrant workers who have been exploited while working in Australia to extend their stay for a short period to effectively pursue workplace claims. <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.
297	Provide appropriate conditions for migrant workers and safeguard their rights and end all measures of arbitrary detention against them (<i>Egypt</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulement and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
299	Continue to strengthen efforts to improve the working conditions of temporary migrant workers, including working holiday makers (<i>Japan</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making it explicit that migrant workers in Australia are entitled to the benefit of the <i>Fair Work Act 2009</i> (Cth) regardless of migration status. • Establishing new criminal offences and civil penalty provisions for using a person's migration status to exploit them in the workplace. • Introducing a new criminal offence for intentional wage theft and an increase of civil penalties for breaches of underpayment related provisions of the Fair Work Act. • A Workplace Justice visa pilot, to enable migrant workers who have been exploited while working in Australia to extend their stay for a short period to effectively pursue workplace claims. <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.
300	Take new measures to strengthen the protection of vulnerable migrants and to prevent their forced eviction (<i>Angola</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.
301	Ensure that human rights of migrants are protected, including with respect to the conditions of temporary migrant workers and detained irregular migrants (<i>Myanmar</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
302	Continue to review and assess its immigration laws and policies to ensure that the rights of migrants are safeguarded, in accordance with international human rights standards (<i>Nepal</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>Review of immigration detention policies and conditions</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to regularly review and update all immigration detention policies to ensure the rights of detainees are protected within the immigration detention network. Conditions within immigration detention facilities are also subject to regular external reviews to ensure that the rights of detainees are safeguarded, in accordance with international human rights standards.</p> <p>Eligibility for a bridging visa to maintain lawful status in the community is routinely considered, with immigration detention being used as a last resort. The Minister may intervene in relation to unlawful non-citizens who are not granted a bridging visa to allow them to be detained in the community rather than in immigration detention facilities, or in less restrictive alternative places of detention, in particular where children are involved.</p> <p>The time an individual spends in immigration detention depends on a range of factors, including the complexity of their case, the legal processes they pursue, and whether they voluntarily choose to leave Australia.</p> <p>Children and families</p> <p>The Australian Government continues to review and update all policies concerned with detaining children and families in the immigration detention network to ensure that the safety and wellbeing of all detainees are met.</p> <p>Children are only accommodated in Immigration Detention Facilities as a last resort and for the shortest possible time. In almost all cases, such detention occurs in Alternative Places of Detention (APODs) and for very few purposes and for short periods, mainly due to airport turnarounds, transfers on medical grounds or being in the final stages of removal to their country of origin.</p> <p>Section 4AA of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (Cth) affirms the principle that children will only be detained, other than in the community under residence determination arrangements, as a measure of last resort.</p> <p>It is a priority to accommodate children and their families in the least restrictive form of appropriate accommodation. Where the Department detains a family, it will accommodate the family group together, whenever possible.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>The Department seeks to provide assurances that the safety and wellbeing needs of children accommodated in held detention are being satisfactorily met and supports the conduct of inquiries into its own child-focused practices and those of contracted services.</p> <p>Families in immigration detention are provided with regular nutritious meals, including age-appropriate food for minors, and fresh fruit and other healthy snacks. Children accommodated in immigration detention facilities or APODs are not restricted to a limited time outside. Dental health and hygiene products are provided to all detainees at no cost.</p> <p>Child wellbeing officers regularly engage with Australian Border Force regarding the welfare and developments needs to children and families in detention facilities.</p> <p>The Department arranges access to age appropriate schooling for school-aged children in immigration detention if they are in APODs for more than 10 weeks.</p> <p>For children younger than school-age, the Department's service providers are able to arrange for them to attend early childhood activities and play groups in line with state and territory provisions and Australian community standards.</p> <p>Mandatory detention</p> <p>The Australian Government notes that mandatory detention applies to an unlawful non-citizen until they are removed from Australia, or until there is no real prospect that it will be practicable to remove them to another country in the reasonably foreseeable future, or they are granted a visa.</p> <p>To give effect to the High Court's decision in <i>NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship & Multicultural Affairs & Anor [2023] HCA 37</i>, the Department of Home Affairs has established a process for the continuous assessment of the detention cohort for the potential release of individuals who may be impacted by the judgment. This includes robust legal and quality assurance processes to ensure that assessments about whether a person is affected by that judgment are lawful, appropriate and consistently documented.</p> <p>Regional Processing</p> <p>The Australian Government remains committed to an enduring regional processing capability in Nauru as a key pillar of Operations Sovereign Borders. Australia's policies on regional processing arrangements have not changed. Under this approach, anyone who attempts to travel to Australia by boat without a valid visa will be turned back to their point of departure, returned to their home country or a country to which they have a right of entry, or transferred to a regional processing country for assessment of any protection claims they may make.</p> <p>These policy settings have successfully stemmed the flow of irregular maritime ventures to Australia, disrupted people smuggling operations in the region, and prevented loss of life at sea. Individuals who attempt to travel to Australia irregularly by boat, including transitory persons, will not settle in Australia.</p> <p>Upon arrival to Nauru, unauthorised maritime arrivals undergo a short reception period in the regional processing centre. They are not detained or incarcerated.</p> <p>The assessment of any transferee's protection claims is the responsibility for the Australian Government of Nauru under its domestic legislation. As this is a legislated process in Nauru, Australia is not involved.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulement and refugee status determination.
303	<p>End the exploitation of migrant communities and protect the rights of migrant workers, including through the provision of socioeconomic benefits (<i>Pakistan</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 319, asylum seeker children education.
307	<p>Take all the necessary steps to provide special protection for asylum seekers, refugees and particularly children (<i>Somalia</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulement and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
314	Increase support for refugees and asylum seekers by reducing barriers to labour markets and education and by providing access to health-care facilities, especially those aimed at improving mental health (<i>United States of America</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Supports for refugees and asylum seekers</p> <p>The Australian Government invests a significant amount of resources to provide high quality facilities, amenities and a broad range of services and activities within the immigration detention network in order to ensure safety and security for detainees and staff. All detainees have access to health services, appropriate food (accommodating dietary and cultural requirements), educational programs, cultural, recreational and sporting activities, internet and computer facilities, televisions, and clean, comfortable sleeping quarters. All persons held in immigration detention facilities are treated in accordance with human rights standards. The Australian Government has contracted appropriately trained and experienced service providers to ensure detainees' needs are adequately met.</p> <p><u>Humanitarian Settlement Program</u></p> <p>The Humanitarian Settlement Program (HSP) supports humanitarian entrants and other eligible visa holders to integrate into Australian life. The HSP provides settlement support and using an individualised case management approach that is tailored to the needs, strengths and goals of each client. The program has a strong focus on English languages acquisition, employment and education outcomes as key components of successful settlement. Clients are supported to participate in the Adult Migrant English Program, engage with employment services, pursue education and training opportunities and recognise pre-arrival skills and qualifications.</p> <p>In October 2023, the Australian Government released the <i>Refugee and Humanitarian Entrant Settlement and Integration Outcomes Framework</i> (Outcomes Framework) which sets out Australia's vision of successful settlement and integration in the Australian context.</p> <p>From July 2026, the new Humanitarian Integration and Settlement Program (HISP) will replace the HSP and will embed better practice settlement principles supporting client-centric, strengths and self-agency service models to achieve models to achieve outcomes aligned with the Outcomes Framework.</p> <p>Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot</p> <p>The Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot (CRISP) was announced by the Australian Government in December 2021. CRISP is a settlement program, under which refugee visa holders resettled in Australia under Australia's offshore Humanitarian Program receive settlement support directly from trained community groups, called Community Supporter Groups (CSGs). CRISP aims to achieve optimal settlement outcomes with the help of Australian community members who want to help refugees settle into life in Australia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSGs provide 12 months of settlement and integration support including financial assistance, help finding housing, help engaging in hobbies and building social networks, and access to education opportunities.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Since its introduction, CRISP has provided an alternative settlement pathway for refugees referred by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, who do not have links in Australia, for resettlement in Australia under Australia's Humanitarian Program, with refugees receiving settlement support directly from trained community groups</p> <p>CRISP will become a permanent feature of Australia's Humanitarian Program in 2026.</p> <p>Reducing barriers to labour markets</p> <p>The Australian Government understands that economic participation has been shown to be critical for refugees and humanitarian entrants to integrate in Australia. Accordingly, the creation of jobs and pathways to employment and self-employment for refugees in local labour markets has been a significant focus through a number of grant programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2021, the Australian Government launched the Skilled Refugee Labour Agreement Pilot (the Pilot) to test the viability of a skilled migration pathway for refugees and displaced people. The Pilot provides concessions for English language proficiency, skills assessments, work experience, age limit, and income and documentary requirements, to reduce barriers faced by refugees and displaced people when trying to access skilled visa pathways. • Settlement Engagement and Transition Support supports access to mainstream employment providers or agencies, referrals to employment readiness programs, and access to information and advice on Australian workplace systems and culture, including rights and responsibilities in the workplace, and Occupational Health and Safety practices. • Youth Transition Support Services help build capability and resilience amongst young humanitarian entrants and other eligible migrants aged 15–25 so they stay engaged in education and make successful transitions to employment. • Australia is trialling a new education pathway, with 20 Global Special Humanitarian visa places allocated in 2024–25 to new Refugee Student Settlement Pathway (RSSP) pilot. These places are part of the Humanitarian Program. Through the RSSP pilot, the Australian Government is trialling alternative approaches to the settlement of refugees, by providing a formal opportunity for community members to welcome refugees into Australia and directly support their settlement journey and integrating into communities. • Refugee visa holders are eligible to access the full suite of free Workforce Australia employment services. Workforce Australia is an Australian Government public employment service that assists eligible people to find, keep, change or create jobs. • As part of the Workforce Australia service offering, the Self-Employment Assistance Program is available to help a person with a business idea or existing small business into a viable business. The program offers 6 free and flexible services over the life cycle of a business and allows participants to choose the level of support that meets their needs. Certain visa holders, including refugee and humanitarian visa holders, are eligible to participate in the service. • A partnership between Settlement Services International and The Bread and Butter Project works to support refugees and humanitarian clients on a traineeship to employment pathways in the bakery industry. • The Economic Pathways to Refugee Integration Program seeks to increase the rate of employment for refugees and humanitarian entrants by creating job opportunities and pathways to employment and self-employment for refugees with low skill levels and low English language proficiency, in recognition of their heightened risk of long-term unemployment.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Health services</p> <p>The health and wellbeing of newly arrived humanitarian entrants and refugees is a priority of the HSP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All HSP clients are supported to register for Australia's universal health care scheme, and apply for income support payments, within three days of their arrival in Australia. This ensures that healthcare is immediately accessible and affordable for all humanitarian entrants. • All humanitarian entrants attend a comprehensive health assessment and receive support to attend necessary follow up appointments, including specialist referrals. • Onshore health supports are complemented by information from clients' immigration medical examinations, which are completed prior to travel to Australia, to ensure continuity of care and appropriate medical attention for those with pre-existing or critical health conditions. • The HSP also delivers individualised support to ensure client mental health and wellbeing needs are met. This can include referral to psychological and counselling services, and specialist torture and trauma counsellors. • The HSP also has a Specialised and Intensive Services component which provides humanitarian entrants and others eligible visa holders who have complex needs with short-term needs-based support to help them access appropriate mainstream services and develop the necessary skills to manage their needs independently. <p>Data on health and welfare</p> <p>Refugees and humanitarian entrants have unique experiences which may impact their health outcomes. They are a subset of a group of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, who have been identified as a population of interest across the health sector, including in several key Australian Government strategies such as the Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma gives specialised support to people who survived trauma and torture before moving to Australia on humanitarian grounds.</p> <p>The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) is developing data and information that will help to build a more comprehensive picture of health and welfare status of refugees and humanitarian entrants. The AIHW developed two reports to help build a more comprehensive picture of the health and welfare status of refugees and humanitarian entrants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health of refugees and humanitarian entrants in Australia</i>, was released in November 2023 and looks at the health outcomes, health service use and causes of death for refugees and humanitarian entrants who arrived in Australia from 2000 to 2020. • <i>Use of hospitals and homelessness services by refugees and humanitarian entrants</i>, was released in July 2024. It builds on the first report and examines data on refugees and humanitarian entrants who arrived in Australia from 2000 to 2020 and their hospital admissions and emergency department presentations between 2016–2017 and 2020–2021, and use of specialist homelessness services between 2011–12 and 2020–2021.

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<p>Legal assistance</p> <p>The Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma helps people who survived trauma and torture before moving to Australia on humanitarian grounds. It provides specialised support services to help them cope with psychological or psychosocial issues arising from their trauma. The Australian Government has progressed funding reforms that ensure vulnerable migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees, have access to legal services.</p> <p>In 2023, the Australian Government announced a \$160 million package of reforms designed to restore integrity to Australia's refugee protection system. Within this package, \$36.5 million will be provided to specialist migration legal assistance providers to deliver legal advice and representation services to migrants seeking an appeal of a permanent protection visa decision.</p> <p>'Vulnerable migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees' are identified as a national priority client group in <i>the National Access to Justice Partnership 2025–2030</i>. Commencing on 1 July 2025, the <i>National Access to Justice Partnership 2025–2030</i> (Partnership) will deliver AU\$3.9 billion in Australian Government funding over 5 years, to support services delivered by legal assistance providers across Australia.</p> <p>The national priority client group in the Partnership that certain cohorts of people experiencing vulnerability and facing disadvantage are more likely to experience legal problems, less likely to seek assistance and/or less able to access services for a range of reasons. The national priority client group provides guidance to legal assistance service providers on the prioritisation of service delivery.</p> <p>Vulnerable migrants were not listed as a national priority client group in previous legal assistance funding agreements. The inclusion of vulnerable migrants in the Partnership ensures access to legal services by migrants.</p>
316-318, 320, 322	Ensure that the non-refoulement principle is secured in law and adhered to in practice, and that all asylum seekers, regardless of their mode of arrival, have access to efficient refugee status determination procedures / ensure that refugee procedures are compatible with international standards, guaranteeing the principle of non-refoulement and prioritizing family reunification/ take the	Accepts	<p>Implemented - ongoing</p> <p>International obligations to refugees including non-refoulement</p> <p>Some individuals in Australia who wish to seek Australia's protection, and who are found to engage Australia's non-refoulement (non-return) obligations, may be granted permanent protection, provided they are also able to fulfil the relevant visa criteria, which includes the health, character and security requirements that apply to all Australian visas.</p> <p>Australia does not return individuals to situations where they face persecution or a real risk of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, arbitrary deprivation of life or the application of the death penalty.</p> <p>Individuals who arrive on a valid visa and seek protection in Australia are currently processed for a Protection visa under the refugee or complementary protection regimes through Australia's refugee status determination procedure.</p> <p><u>Permanent visa pathway</u></p> <p>The Australian Government has committed to resolving the status of Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) and Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV) holders onto a permanent visa. In addition, greater weight is now being given to the strength, nature and duration of ties with Australia, in deciding whether to refuse or cancel a person's visa on character grounds.</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	<p>necessary measures to ensure that the principle of non-refoulement is incorporated into legislation and that all asylum seekers, regardless of how they arrived in the country, have access to efficient refugee status determination procedures and determination of non-return (<i>Afghanistan, Mexico, Argentina, Ghana, Albania</i>)).</p>		<p>On 13 February 2023, the Australian Government announced a permanent visa pathway for those who held or applied for a TPV or SHEV before 14 February 2023 and have been found to engage protection obligations through the Resolution of Status (RoS) visa.</p> <p>To support the transition to RoS, the Australian Government committed \$9.4 million to facilitate the provision of free specialist refugee and immigration legal services, administered via the Australian Red Cross. This service was initially intended for two years (2022–24) however this was extended further to cover the 2024–25 financial year. As demand for this service has been met and there is no ongoing need, this grant concludes on 30 June 2025.</p> <p>In addition, the Minister has exercised, on a case by case basis, Ministerial Intervention powers to enable certain individuals to apply for a new TPV or SHEV, with a focus on those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrived as children with their families • arrived on or before 2010 • have potential changes in country circumstances that may have given rise to new protection claims. <p>The Minister also made offers of a permanent stay in Australia to certain individuals who arrived as unaccompanied minors before 13 July 2013 so that an application for a RoS visa may proceed.</p> <p>Individuals with an immediate family member who is either eligible for, or has Australian citizenship, may also have a permanent migration visa pathway via Ministerial intervention on a case-by-case basis. As permanent residents, RoS visa holders are eligible to sponsor family members under the family visa stream of Australia's Migration Program.</p> <p>On 9 February 2023, the Australian Government removed the lowest processing priority in the Family Visa stream of the Migration Program where the sponsor or proposer is a permanent visa holder who entered Australia as an Unauthorised Maritime Arrival.</p> <p>To be eligible for the grant of a family visa, visa applicants and their sponsors must meet the requirements in the migration legislation. These include family relationship, health, character and identity requirements. Some family visa categories are subject to capping and queuing arrangements.</p>
319	<p>Ensure that all refugees' and asylum seekers' children enjoy the right to education, without any discrimination (<i>Afghanistan</i>)</p>	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>As permanent visa holders, humanitarian and refugee visa holders are able to access education. For those who apply for protection onshore and are awaiting an outcome, children will have access to education on their bridging visa. Any child who at any time resides in an immigration detention facility will have access to education as required by the local state and territory legislation.</p>
320, 322	<p>Continue to ensure improvement in the conditions of refugees to meet human rights standards and comply with international treaties/ ensure that</p>	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	measures taken with regard to refugees and asylum seekers are in full compliance with obligations under international law and human rights (<i>Ghana, Albania</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
321	Ensure adequate protection for refugees and asylum seekers, as well as migrant workers with temporary visas (<i>Holy See</i>)		<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
323	Ensure that the issue of asylum seekers and refugees are addressed in line with international human rights and humanitarian law and Australia's other commitments on this issue in	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Australia continues its strong actions that address modern slavery, including human trafficking, not only at regional but also bilateral and international levels.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p>

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
	other forums, including within the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (<i>Indonesia</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
329	Fulfil its international obligations related to refugee protection (<i>Pakistan</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
330	Continue to ensure the security, living conditions and rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, regardless of how they entered the country (<i>Peru</i>)	Accepts	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Australia's Humanitarian Program is set at 20,000 places annually. The Australian Government has a range of programs to provide support for the settlement of humanitarian refugees.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36, Ratify the ILO Protocols • 62, ending discrimination

Rec No. ¹	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ²	Australia's implementation status ³
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68, 70–82, 84, 86, 91, 93–97, combat discrimination and violence based on race, ethnic or religious grounds • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 314, support for refugees and asylum seekers • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination • 319, asylum seeker children education.
339	Ensure that its asylum procedures and border management policies fully comply with international obligations (<i>Nicaragua</i>)	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented – ongoing</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a managed and equitable system of migration, consistent with our international obligations with respect to the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 302, review and assessment of immigration laws and policies • 316-318, 320, 322, non-refoulment and refugee status determination.
342, 343	Take all measures necessary to ensure that the national counterterrorism legislation is in line with Australia's international human rights obligations	Accepts	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>On 24 November 2023, the Australian Government passed <i>Counter-Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023</i> (Cth), which enhanced safeguards and oversight mechanisms for a range of counterterrorism powers, including by introducing additional considerations for decision-makers, enhanced reporting requirements, and new notification requirements.</p>

Implementation status of recommendations Australia ‘noted and will consider further’ in 2021

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
1–7	Ratify/consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (<i>Uzbekistan, Togo, France, Japan, Senegal, Costa Rica, Argentina</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>The Australian Government is not proposing to ratify the <i>International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance</i> at this time.</p> <p>The Australian Government considers the rights and opportunities afforded by this instrument are adequately protected in the existing instruments to which Australia is a party, in combination with domestic legislation, policies and practices.</p> <p>Australia already has international human rights obligations prohibiting conduct covering enforced disappearance and provides protection against enforced disappearances in its criminal laws.</p>
41	Withdraw the reservation to article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Notes and will consider further	<p>The Australian Government is not proposing to withdraw the reservation to article 20 of the <i>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</i>.</p> <p>Australia's reservations are consistent with the object and purpose of these treaties and consistent with the <i>Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties</i> and there have been no formal objections made to these reservations by other State Parties.</p>
56	Improve statutory protections at all levels of government for traditional owners seeking to protect their cultural sites (<i>New Zealand</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>The Australian Government is working in partnership with the First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance (the Alliance). Together, we are co-designing improvements to First Nations heritage protections through policy transformation, law reform, and administrative improvement. The Alliance's membership is made up of First Nations organisations, working to protect, manage and celebrate First Nations cultural heritage across Australia.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p>All Australian state and territory jurisdictions have regulations protecting First Nations cultural heritage. A number of jurisdictions, including NSW, Victoria, the ACT, and Tasmania, have strengthened, or are in the process of strengthening, their respective protections.</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>The ACT Government's <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i> (ACT) recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have distinct cultural rights and must not be denied the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage and to have their material and economic relationships with the land and other resources with which they have a connection under traditional laws and customs recognised and valued. There are also specific protections under the <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> (ACT).</p>

⁴ [A/HRC/47/8](#) paragraph 146 contains Australia's third UPR recommendations. Recommendation numbers in this column are sub-paragraphs of paragraph 146. For example, recommendation 1 is found at [A/HRC/47/8](#) paragraph 146.1.

⁵ [A/HRC/47/8/Add.1](#).

⁶ A number of recommendations are identified as being “implemented – ongoing”, reflecting Australia's view that the recommendation expresses an aspiration that calls for ongoing governmental effort.

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u> The NSW Government is working towards reform of the legislation that protects Aboriginal cultural heritage. The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water will liaise with Aboriginal Affairs NSW to support the broader Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Framework.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u> <i>Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989</i> (NT) is the primary legislation protecting Indigenous heritage in the NT, establishing a procedure for registering sacred sites, conditions for entry, and criminal offenses for damaging or desecrating them, administered by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u> The <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> (Qld) and the <i>Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> (Qld) provide protection of areas and objects of traditional, customary, and archaeological significance, recognise the key role of Traditional Owners in cultural heritage matters, and establish practical and flexible processes for dealing with cultural heritage in a timely manner.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u> The <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988</i> (SA) protects all Aboriginal heritage from any impacts without authorisation. In 2024, the SA Government amended the Act to significantly increase the range and amount of penalties that apply for breaching the Act. It also added a new power to allow the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs to protect Aboriginal heritage discovered within an area where an authority to impact Aboriginal heritage has previously been granted.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u> Tasmania has legislation to protect Aboriginal sites of significance. In addition, new Aboriginal cultural heritage protection legislation is in development, which will improve protections and give Aboriginal people the primary decision-making roles in determining how their heritage is managed.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u> The Victorian Government has improved regulations accompanying the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> (Vic) to clarify cultural heritage management plan requirements.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u> WA's <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> (WA) affords protection to sites of Aboriginal heritage significance. The legislation was amended in November 2023 to strengthen the role of Aboriginal people in the approval process, prohibit 'gag clauses' and provide equal rights of review for native title parties on Ministerial decisions.</p>
124	Ensure that prisoners with disabilities are not held in solitary confinement and have adequate access to support	Notes and will consider further	<p>Partially implemented</p> <p>The <i>National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement</i> (National Agreement) came into effect in March 2022 and has been endorsed by the Commonwealth and all states and territories. The National Agreements commits to improving mental health and well-being outcomes and reducing suicide for priority populations groups, including people with a disability and</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
	and mental health services (Zambia)		<p>people who are (or were previously) in contact with the criminal justice system. The National Agreement reaffirms that states are primarily responsible for providing appropriate inpatient care for remanded sentenced prisoners in custodial settings.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>People with disability's mental health needs are required to be assessed within the first day of their admission to a detention centre and a case management is devised accordingly. The ACT continues to look for opportunities to improve services and supports to clients with disability who are in custody.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>NSW does not use solitary confinement.</p> <p>All inmates in NSW correctional centres have access to support and mental health services. This includes inmates with a disability who are held in segregation or have limited or no association with other inmates. Segregation is used for inmates that pose a significant or extreme risk to other inmates or Corrective Services staff. The segregation of inmates is regulated and subject to regular review.</p> <p>Corrective Services NSW provides tailored support for inmates with a disability, underpinned by a <i>Disability Framework</i>, which promotes access, inclusion and person-centred case management.</p> <p>Corrective Services NSW Statewide Disability Services provides direct support to people in custody with a disability. Housing options are available for individuals with a disability requiring placement outside mainstream environments with services in place to assess, manage and help inmates with a disability to participate in programs in custody.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT is reviewing its forensic mental health care system based on recommendations from the <i>Review of Forensic Mental Health and Disability Services</i> report. The Complex Behavioural Unit in Darwin, is focused on providing specialised care, case management, and therapeutic interventions for individuals with complex cognitive and mental health needs.</p> <p>To improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities and mental health issues post-custody, the NT is enhancing diversion programs and transitional support services. The NT recognised the challenges of managing prisoners with cognitive and psychosocial disabilities and is working to improve systems for appropriate care. This includes strengthening dedicated facilities and exploring specialist services for better clinical oversight and timely mental health support. A multi-disciplinary assessment team now collaborates with the National Disability Insurance Scheme to enhance support access and quality of life for prisoners.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Forensic Disability Act 2011</i> (Qld) provides for the involuntary detention, and the care and support and protection, of forensic disability clients, while safeguarding their rights and freedoms. The Forensic Disability Service is a purpose-built, specialist, medium-security residential rehabilitation facility for up to 10 clients with complex needs.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p>Queensland youth detention centres do not use solitary confinement. Separations in Queensland youth detention centres are facilitated in a way that supports the young person's individual needs and circumstances, including age, culture, mental health and wellbeing, abilities/disabilities, and cognitive functioning.</p> <p>Youth detention centres consider the impact separation would have on young people and make every effort to provide alternate and less restrictive options to manage risk. Where separation is considered necessary, young people will continue to have access to supports and services, including regular observations and welfare checks to ensure their safety, health, and wellbeing and routine emotional and psychological harm assessment reporting to assist in identifying further wrap-around support needs while separated.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The <i>Youth Justice Administration Regulations 2016 (SA)</i> govern the use of isolation and segregation at Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre, including that it must not continue for longer than is reasonably necessary in the circumstances. Where a child or young person is subject to segregation, the Regulations require that they must not be prevented from having contact with other young people for more than 22 hours in any 24-hour period unless such contact would be detrimental to the wellbeing of them or the other residents. They must also be offered regular time out of their rooms.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>The Tasmanian Government, through the Correctional Primary Health Service within the Tasmanian Department of Health continues to provide health services within the prison environment.</p> <p>Aligning with the amendments to the <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1995 (Tas)</i>, a new Prison Mental Health Service commenced in Tasmania on 1 September 2024.</p> <p>Prisoners with disability receive holistic support through a Therapeutic Specialist Support Team in addition to health-based supports, from the Prisoner Mental Health Service and Correctional Primary Health Service.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>The Victorian Government has passed the <i>Youth Justice Act 2024 (Vic)</i> which prohibits the use of solitary confinement in relation to a child or young person held in custody in a youth justice custodial centre</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>Legislative changes in WA, which commenced in 2024, require more frequent reviews for people with mental impairment in the justice system to ensure a rigorous system of supervision and management, aligned to individuals' needs and circumstances. The changes also make provisions regarding a person's right of appeal against certain decisions and ensures that people with mental impairment within the justice system are informed of their right to access advocacy services.</p>
135	Eliminate prison overcrowding and inadequate mental health institutions as well as revoke those laws or policies allowing indefinite	Notes and will consider further	<p>Prison overcrowding</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p>In Australia, states and territories are primarily responsible for criminal law, justice matters and mental health facilities. Australian jurisdictions have been investing in new fit for purpose prisons, rehabilitation and reintegration programs to</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
	detention of persons with disabilities (<i>Uzbekistan</i>)		<p>reduce recidivism, diversionary programs and non-custodial measures to reduce prison populations, and programs to reduce the over-representation of First Nations people in prisons.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>Corrective Services NSW is constantly reviewing its operating network to ensure that it supports the diverse needs of the inmate population, anticipated growth or decline and required operating environment.</p> <p>NSW's Corrective Services Infrastructure Strategy is informed by medium and long-term forecasts on prison population trends and guides infrastructure planning to reflect the accommodation, health and other needs of inmates. As new infrastructure is brought online, ageing or obsolete facilities that do not meet the requirements of a modern, fit-for-purpose network are decommissioned. The NSW corrections system operates as a network with the ability to move inmates between correctional centres to address growth in different cohorts.</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government has invested in the development of a new Youth Justice Centre in Darwin and a redeveloped centre in Alice Springs, to meet the therapeutic and rehabilitative needs of young people. The new Darwin centre became operational in November 2024 and the redeveloped Alice Springs centre is scheduled for completion in 2025.</p> <p>The NT Government is addressing prison overcrowding and the needs of individuals with mental health conditions and disabilities through its <i>Infrastructure Master Plan</i>. This includes the expansion and refurbishment of custodial facilities, such as the development of new women's correctional centres in Darwin and Alice Springs, and the addition of operational beds across existing sites. To further ease overcrowding, the Department is increasing access to alternative custodial options, including transitional accommodation, work camps, and community-based sentencing where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) conducts weekly audits of the number of persons in Queensland prisons to establish the extent of overcrowding. The Queensland Government has implemented short, medium, and long-term strategies to address overcrowding across Queensland's correctional system.</p> <p>The Queensland Government has commenced construction of the new Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC), which will open in 2025. The LVCC will support end-to-end case management with a health and rehabilitation design and operating model that includes enhanced mental health, drug, and alcohol rehabilitation services.</p> <p>The Queensland Government is building two new therapeutic youth detention centres, one will be located in South-East Queensland and one in Northern Queensland.</p> <p>Queensland leverages the Australasian Health Facility Guidelines in development and refurbishment of mental health facilities. Facilities are designed to contemporary standards contribute to implementation of consumer centric models of care.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>The Government of SA has de-commissioned a youth custodial facility built in 1993 and consolidated youth custodial services onto a single site, built in 2012. Construction has been completed and is being commissioned to provide additional</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p>infrastructure to support consolidation of youth custodial services onto one site, incorporating contemporary, therapeutic design principles, recognising the physical and psychological impact of the built-environment.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Over-crowding is not a primary concern in Tasmania's custodial environments. In 2023–24, Tasmania's detention centre utilisation was 66.3 per cent and prison capacity utilisation was 85.5 per cent. In youth justice, the Tasmanian Government has committed to a therapeutic model for custodial youth justice, which will see the closure of Ashley Youth Detention Centre and building of a new, fit for purpose, custodial youth justice facility. New correctional infrastructure in Tasmania ensures that adequate space is available for prisoners and remandees</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government, through the Correctional Primary Health Service within the Tasmanian Department of Health continues to provide health services within the prison environment.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2023, Victoria opened the Cherry Creek Youth Justice Centre, a contemporary youth justice facility that supports the rehabilitation of young people and keeps staff and the community safe.</p> <p>In the adult custodial system, Victoria has committed to open the Western Plains Correctional Centre to improve safety and rehabilitate men in custody.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, a new operating philosophy and service model for youth custody has been developed, which is founded on world best practice in youth justice, focusing on rehabilitation and reducing reoffending through a trauma-informed, therapeutic approach.</p> <p>Mental health facilities</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>See recommendation 124.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The <i>Mental Health Act 2016</i> (Qld) requires that all Forensic Orders are reviewed every six months by the Mental Health Review Tribunal. A tribunal review can occur earlier at the request of the person subject to the order, an interested person, the Attorney-General, or the Chief Psychiatrist if a person's care is the responsibility of an Australian Mental Health Service or the Director of Forensic Disability for a person detained in the Forensic Disability Service</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>A new Prison Mental Health Service commenced in Tasmania on 1 September 2024.</p> <p>The <i>Disability Services Act 2011</i> (Tas) is being reformed, and the <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1995</i> (Tas) has recently been amended, to further strengthen the rights of people with disability.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria is currently planning ways to improve secure forensic disability services infrastructure in the State. This includes considering ways to increase capacity in forensic disability secure services, and in turn decrease the number of people with disabilities in custody.</p>
207	Extend human rights training in the public sector, especially for those working with children in the administration of justice (<i>Luxembourg</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>The <i>National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</i> (National Principles), developed through the Australian Human Rights Commission, were endorsed by members of the Council of Australian Governments in February 2019. The National Principles aim to provide a nationally consistent approach to creating organisational cultures that foster child safety and wellbeing. All institutions in Australia that engage in child-related work are strongly encouraged to implement the National Principles. In some jurisdictions, the National Principles are referred to the Child Safe Standards and are embedded in legislation for organisations working with children and young people. Work is underway in jurisdictions where the National Principles (or equivalent Child Safe Standards) have not yet been legislated.</p> <p>National Principle 7 focuses on equipping staff and volunteers with the knowledge and skills to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.</p> <p>In 2019 the Australian Government introduced the <i>Commonwealth Child Safe Framework</i> (the Framework). The Framework is a whole-of-government policy that sets minimum standards for Australian Government entities to create and maintain behaviours and practices that are safe for children. It includes implementation of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.</p> <p>The Framework is mandatory for all Commonwealth non-corporate entities and strongly encouraged for all other Commonwealth entities, including corporate Commonwealth entities and Commonwealth companies. Accountable Authorities of Commonwealth entities are responsible for the implementation of the Framework within their respective entity.</p> <p>The Australian Government has also developed eLearning to support Commonwealth entities to implement the Framework. This training is free and available to all Commonwealth public sector employees.</p> <p>See also recommendations 205, 206, awareness raising and education on human rights for law enforcement officers, migration officials and those working in the justice sector.</p> <p>States and territories</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>As part of a 4-week induction, Youth Justice Officers working in the NT Youth Detention Centres are receiving training in human rights. The training incorporates a topic on the <i>Charter of Rights for Young People in Detention Centres</i> and Fundamental Rights which are founded upon the <i>Convention on the Rights of the Child</i> and UN Rules.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Department of Justice delivers training sessions across the Queensland public sector, including to youth justice officers and to the administrators of Queensland's Blue Card Service – Queensland's Working with Children Check. The Blue Card System regulates activities that are essential to children's lives. These include childcare, education, sport, cultural</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p>activities and foster care. It monitors people who work in these industries and help organisations to create safe environments for children.</p> <p><u>South Australia (SA)</u></p> <p>In SA, staff at Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre undergo induction and accredited training, including in positive behaviour support, trauma-informed practice, cultural awareness and working with children and young people with neuro-developmental disability. Staff must also adhere to the <i>Working with Children and Young People Code of Conduct</i> which outlines responsibilities and requirements to provide a safe environment for children and young people.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>Tasmania has child safety education and accreditation modules for individuals working with children. There are mandatory reporting requirements. Training modules for persons who are mandatory reporters must meet national standards. Qualifications are to be refreshed annually by persons in these roles.</p> <p>Under the <i>Youth Justice Blueprint 2024–2034</i> work has begun to develop a therapeutic model of care for youth detention that will ensure the safety of children and young people in detention. Strategy 5 of the Blueprint will work towards providing an appropriately trained, supported and culturally aligned therapeutic workforce which will support the youth justice workforce in their roles in delivering the Blueprint's reform agenda.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>The WA Police Force is finalising its Child Safety Framework, with a strong focus on embedding the <i>National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</i> through a comprehensive action plan. A significant amount of work has already been undertaken to prioritise child safety and enhance staff knowledge, including the inclusion of child safety in WA Police's Code of Conduct and compulsory staff training</p> <p>WA is reviewing and implementing all National Principles for Child Safe Organisations across youth services and detention centres. The National Principles are reflected in the principles which inform the Model of Care Implementation for Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Unit 18.</p> <p>WA has developed a <i>Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy</i>, based on the <i>National Child Safe Standards</i>. The <i>Commissioner's Operating Policies and Procedures</i>, which incorporate the <i>National Principles of Child Safe Organisations</i>, and <i>Youth Justice Foundational Training Program</i> provide all Youth Justice staff an understanding of the Child Safe Principles.</p>
211	Analyse possible legal and institutional changes to favour greater political participation by women and gradually reverse inequality between men and women, especially among indigenous,	Notes and will consider further	<p>Australia is committed to gender equality and putting gender equality at the heart of policy and decision-making. Australian governments have taken significant steps to achieving gender equality with a focus on ending gender-based violence, valuing unpaid and paid care, increasing economic equality and security, and increasing leadership, representation and decision-making.</p> <p>See recommendation 212, increasing the participation of women in public and political life.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
	migrant and poor women (<i>Argentina</i>)		
238	Conduct consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities with a view to developing a national action plan for inclusive education (<i>Bulgaria</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>The Minister for Education is accountable for conducting a review of the effectiveness of the Disability Standards for Education 2005 in achieving their objectives, including consideration of whether any amendments are required, at intervals of no more than five years. The next review will occur in 2025.</p> <p>Under <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> (ADS), five initial Targeted Action Plans (TAPs) were established which committed all Australian governments to a number of actions with a one to three-year focus to achieve specific deliverables to improve outcomes for people with disability.</p> <p>The Early Childhood TAP focused on children from infancy to school age with disability or developmental concerns, their families and carers. The TAP set out key actions to strengthen early identification, information, supports and pathways, as well as collaboration between programs and services, all of which contribute to the development and wellbeing of children to help them thrive across and between life stages. The Early childhood TAP had 76 actions shared across Australian, state and territory governments.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 230, education for all children • 239, Australia's Disability Strategy. <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>The NT Government is committed to strengthening special education schooling and inclusion support across schools. The NT has an advocacy service that allows us to understand the barriers facing children with disability and their families. During a review in 2022, consultation was undertaken with families that have used the service, as well as ongoing analysis of systemic concerns. Consultation with the NT's Disability Advisory Committee took place for feedback on projects, and to keep them informed of our responses to national initiatives.</p> <p>The NT Government is working with national bodies to develop a National Roadmap for Inclusive Education.</p> <p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>The Queensland Department of <i>Education's Disability Service Plan 2025–2028</i> outlines actions to support children, students, young people and staff with disability to realise their potential. This Plan sits within the national framework contributing to the implementation of <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i> and <i>Queensland's Disability Plan 2022–27: Together, a better Queensland</i>.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>In 2021, Victoria began the implementation of <i>Disability Inclusion</i> - a comprehensive reform to improve the identification, assessment and support provided to students with disabilities in all Victorian Government schools. It involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new tiered funding model to provide additional funding to students with a disability, based on a strengths-based individual profile. • Initiatives to help build workforce capability, knowledge and skills in inclusive education. <p>As of 2025, <i>Disability Inclusion</i> has been rolled out to all Victorian government schools. Almost \$1.6 billion has been invested in <i>Disability Inclusion</i> since the commencement of its rollout.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>Integrated Therapy Services is currently operating in Child Protection Districts in the East Metropolitan area, enabling early identification of the developmental support needs, and timely and targeted allied health intervention, for children 0–4 years living in Out-of-Home Care. Discussions are underway to extend the services to districts in the South Metropolitan area.</p>
242	Guarantee effective access to justice for persons with disabilities, ensuring due process safeguards to enable them to effectively exercise their legal capacity in courts (<i>Chile</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>The <i>Final Report of the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability</i> was tabled in Parliament on 29 September 2023 and includes recommendations with respect to ensuring the rights of people with disability to access and use supports and advocacy services in making and participating in decisions that affect them. The Australian Government provided its response to the final report on 31 July 2024. All governments have accepted a number of recommendations on improving access to these types of supports and advocacy services.</p> <p>See recommendation 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system.</p>
244, 247, 249	Improve the conditions of persons with disabilities in the criminal justice system and institutions and put an end to their indefinite detention without a conviction (<i>Iraq, Timor-Leste, Holy See</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>Since 2021, Australia has taken steps to address matters related to the treatment of people in detention, including women, people with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the education of law enforcement officials.</p> <p>The Australian government continues to recognise the importance of providing effect access to justice for people with disability to ensure their rights are respected. Under <i>Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031</i>, Australian governments have agreed to work to ensure the criminal justice system responds effectively to the complex needs and vulnerabilities of people with disabilities and to reduce the over-representation of people with disability across the criminal justice system.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 123, arbitrary and indefinite detention of persons with disabilities • 124, prisoners with disabilities, solitary confinement and access to support and mental health services • 236, discrimination against people with disabilities in the criminal justice system • 243, 250, remedies for acts of violence against persons with disabilities in institutions or residences.
245, 246, 248	Eliminate discriminatory practices against persons with disabilities, including	Notes and will	<p>The <i>Final Report of the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability</i> (Disability Royal Commission) was tabled in Parliament on 29 September 2023 and includes a recommendation with respect to</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
	involuntary treatments, forced sterilizations and unjustified medical procedures (<i>Cuba, Sweden, Germany</i>)	consider further	<p>prohibiting non-therapeutic sterilisation of people with disability. The Australian Government responded to the Disability Royal Commission's report on 31 July 2024.</p> <p>Several Disability Royal Commission recommendations relate to restrictive practices. In its initial response the Australian Government committed \$1.2 million to develop targets to drive the reduction and elimination of restrictive practices.</p> <p>Recommendation 6.41 of the final report called for all jurisdictions to amend or enact legislation prohibiting non-therapeutic procedures resulting in the permanent sterilisation of people with disability, except where there is a threat to the life of the person with disability were the procedure not performed or; the person with disability is an adult and has given voluntary and informed consent to the procedure, with support for decision-making if required. The Australian Government continues to consider this recommendation.</p> <p><i>States and territories</i></p> <p><u>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</u></p> <p>In the ACT, substituted decision makers cannot provide consent for reproductive sterilisation for a person with disability. However, consent can be provided by the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal and courts in limited circumstances. The ACT Government will consider ways to strengthen current protections, in response to the Disability Royal Commission.</p> <p><u>New South Wales (NSW)</u></p> <p>The <i>Guardianship Act 1987</i> (NSW) establishes a framework to ensure that people are not deprived of necessary medical or dental treatment merely because they lack the capacity to consent to the carrying out of such treatment, and to ensure that any medical or dental treatment that is carried out on such people is carried out for the purpose of promoting and maintaining their health and wellbeing. The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal must not consent to certain categories of treatment (including sterilisation) unless it is satisfied that the treatment is necessary to save the patient's life or to prevent serious damage to the patient's health.</p> <p>Depending on the circumstances, including the nature of the procedure performed, general criminal offences under Part 3 of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW), such as those for physical assaults, may also apply</p> <p><u>Northern Territory (NT)</u></p> <p>In the NT, there is an Informed Consent Policy and Procedure for NT Health underpinned by the <i>Healthcare Decision Making Act 2023</i> (NT). Consent to provide medical treatment is valid, if it is voluntary, informed and given by a consumer who has the capacity to understand information presented to them and decide. Capacity may be diminished by many factors including intellectual disability, hearing or vision impairment.</p> <p>Health care providers must determine whether a person with impaired decision-making capacity has an Advanced Personal Plan or Guardianship order in place before providing health care. If there is no Advanced Personal Plan in place, the health care professional must make a reasonable effort to contact the appropriate health care decision maker.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
			<p><u>Queensland (Qld)</u></p> <p>In Queensland, if a person lacks capacity to consent to medical treatment, consent must be obtained through a valid advance health directive, an appointed guardian, a health attorney under an advance health directive or enduring power of attorney, a statutory health attorney or the Public Guardian.</p> <p>The Queensland Guardianship and <i>Administration Act 2000</i> (Qld) and the <i>Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018</i> (Qld) provide that certain medical procedures require consent from the Supreme Court of Queensland or the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal. This includes sterilisation of an adult and termination of a pregnancy of an adult.</p> <p><u>Tasmania (Tas)</u></p> <p>In Tasmania, if a person lacks decision making capacity, consent to medical and/or dental treatment may be provided by a person responsible, through a valid advanced care directive, an appointed guardian under the <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1995</i> (Tas). This Act also specifies that special treatment (that is, any treatment that is intended to or reasonably has the effect of rendering a person infertile, for termination of pregnancy, removal of non-regenerative tissue for transplantation) requires the approval of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.</p> <p><u>Victoria (Vic)</u></p> <p>Victoria is committed to reducing and eliminating restrictive practices, including the use of involuntary chemical restraint, to the greatest extent possible in all settings for people with disability.</p> <p>The <i>Guardianship and Administration Act 2019</i> (Vic) provides a range of legislative protections for people with disabilities, ensuring their human rights and dignity are protected and promoted when decisions are made on their behalf. The Act contains specific provisions related to special medical procedures which ensure that a procedure that is likely to bring about permanent infertility to a person without decision-making capacity can only be consented to by an independent tribunal. There are similar protections for other special medical procedures. The Act also establishes the Public Advocate, a statutory officer to promote the human rights of people with disability and protect them from abuse, neglect and exploitation.</p> <p><u>Western Australia (WA)</u></p> <p>In WA, if a person does not have capacity to consent to sterilisation, depending on their age, either the Family Court or the State Administrative Tribunal will be involved in determining whether sterilisation is in the patient's best interests.</p> <p>In July 2024, WA accepted in-principle the Disability Royal Commission recommendation related to the legislative prohibition of non-therapeutic sterilisation.</p>
277	Supply funding to the Indigenous Peoples' Organisation to enable independent indigenous participation with relevant United Nations mechanisms (<i>Finland</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>Implemented – ongoing</p> <p>The \$3.6 million three-year First Nations International Fellowships and Partnerships Grants Program was launched in 2024. Fellowships support First Nations Australians to participate as independent representatives in relevant United Nations mechanisms. Fellowships are awarded to First Nations Australians who work in fields with a foreign policy interest and will build and strengthen international diplomacy skills to participate as experts, advocates and/or foreign policy practitioners. The inaugural round of the Program has focused on participation at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous People.</p>

Rec No. ⁴	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021) ⁵	Australia's implementation status ⁶
288	Establish regulations that incorporate the principle of free, prior and informed consent of indigenous communities, in relation to projects with potential impacts on their territories and ancestral ways of life, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 16 (<i>Paraguay</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>Since endorsing the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i> in 2009, the Australian Government has adopted the guiding principles in its programs and policies and approach to engagement and collaboration. The Australian Government seeks to enhance the fundamental human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and supports their individual and collective rights, including rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health and education. Policies and programs are designed to advance reconciliation in a tangible way, by prioritising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, self-determination, respect and working with state, territory and local governments.</p> <p>See also recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56, protection of cultural sites • 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • 284, preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultural heritages • 287, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
306	Scale up the achievements of the Migrant Workers' Taskforce, which plays a critical role in addressing the potential exploitation of migrant workers (<i>Ethiopia</i>)	Notes and will consider further	<p>Since the third UPR, the Australian Government has progressed measures to address the exploitation of temporary migrant workers.</p> <p>See recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.

Recommendations Australia 'noted' or 'noted but will not consider further at this time' in 2021

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
8, 9	Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (<i>Ukraine, Slovakia</i>)	Notes
10–21	Ratify/Consider ratifying the Convention on Migrant Workers (Sri Lanka, Egypt, Senegal, Costa Rica, Chile, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Togo, Turkey, El Salvador, Honduras, Algeria, Morocco)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
22	Ratify key international human rights instruments, such as the Convention on Migrant Workers (<i>Philippines</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
23–25, 27	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (<i>Togo, Cyprus, Honduras, El Salvador</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
26, 28	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (<i>Cyprus, El Salvador</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
29	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (<i>Albania</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
30	Ratify the remaining human rights treaties, including those which facilitate complaints under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (<i>North Macedonia</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
31, 33, 35	Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (<i>Costa Rica, Chile, Spain</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
32	Consider ratifying the Convention on Migrant Workers and the ILO Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) and Convention No. 169 (<i>Ecuador</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
34	Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (<i>Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
37	Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 and the Convention on Migrant Workers to advance Sustainable Development Goals 5.4, 8, 10 and 16 (<i>Paraguay</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
38	Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (<i>Honduras</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
39	Remove its reservation to article 37(c) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which requires children to be detained separately from adults, as previously recommended (<i>Estonia</i>)	Notes
40	Withdraw reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratify the Optional Protocol thereto on a communications procedure, and raise the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years (<i>Italy</i>)	Notes
43	Consider the possibility of ratifying those human rights instruments that have not been ratified (<i>Lebanon</i>)	Notes

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
47	Develop a human rights agenda covering 5 to 10 years, in collaboration with national stakeholders and civil society (<i>Guyana</i>)	Notes
49	Consider adopting a human rights act with a clause on precedence over all other legislation (<i>Ecuador</i>)	Notes
53	Stop using false information to make baseless accusations against other countries for political purposes (<i>China</i>)	Australia believes that recommendation 53 falls outside the ambit of the UPR
58	Integrate existing non-discrimination provisions in a comprehensive law to ensure effective protection against all forms of discrimination and access to effective remedies for all victims of discrimination (<i>State of Palestine</i>)	Notes
59	Adopt a new legal act or amend relevant laws to ensure full protection from racial discrimination (<i>Uzbekistan</i>)	Notes
60	Adopt a comprehensive federal law to provide effective protection against all forms of discrimination (<i>Belarus</i>)	Notes
61	Consider adopting a federal act that ensures effective protection against all forms of discrimination and ensures access to effective resources for victims (<i>Ecuador</i>)	Notes
63	Consolidate existing non-discrimination provisions in a comprehensive federal law to ensure effective protection against all forms of discrimination on all the prohibited grounds (<i>Guyana</i>)	Notes
85	Exclude from the Constitution the provisions that allow racial discrimination (<i>Russian Federation</i>)	Notes
87	Adopt a comprehensive law prohibiting all types of discrimination against minority and indigenous groups (<i>Somalia</i>)	Notes
100, 104	Eliminate/reform the obligation imposed by some states to carry out compulsory surgical interventions to change the sex listed in identity documents (<i>Spain, Malta</i>)	Notes
101	End harmful practices, including forced and coercive medical interventions, to ensure the bodily integrity of children with intersex variations (<i>Iceland</i>)	Notes
108-109	Consider increasing/increase official development assistance to the international commitment of 0.7 per cent of gross national income (<i>Cambodia, Haiti</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
110	Suspend the extractive and development projects that are carried out on lands owned by indigenous peoples without seeking their consent (<i>State of Palestine</i>)	Notes
111	Increase efforts to reach the emission reduction goal set by the Paris Agreement and to integrate a human rights-based approach in its efforts aimed at combating climate change (<i>Switzerland</i>)	Notes
112	Promote policies and measures to mitigate the impact of climate change on the human rights of persons belonging to vulnerable groups (<i>Uruguay</i>);	Notes
113	Implement more effective climate change policies based on a long-term plan on lowering fossil fuel use, and reducing pollution, which are contributing to adverse effects on the right to life and the right to health of people due to global warming, as well as toxic emissions (<i>Vanuatu</i>);	Notes
119	Ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serve to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation (<i>State of Palestine</i>)	Notes
120	Finalize its national action plan on business and human rights (<i>Thailand</i>)	Notes

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
126	End the policy of arbitrary detention and forced extradition at the request of the United States of America on the basis of false legal grounds such as alleged violations of the unilateral coercive measures (<i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
127	Review mandatory sentencing laws with a view to abolishing them, while expanding non-custodial measures where appropriate (<i>Norway</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
140, 151	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 18 years, and prohibit isolation and the use of force as forms of punishment in juvenile justice centres (<i>Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Zambia</i>)	Notes
141, 143–146, 148–150, 153–158, 160, 162–163, 165–169	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 in line with international standards (<i>Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland France, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova</i>)	Notes
142	Amend Australia's legislation in order to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years and withdraw the reservations to article 37 (c) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding the separation of children, which requires detained children to be separated from adults (<i>Spain</i>)	Notes
147	Increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility and adopt measures to ensure children receive appropriate community support directed at addressing risk factors (<i>Canada</i>)	Notes
152, 159	Promote non-judicial measures for children accused of criminal offences and raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility (<i>Czechia, Lithuania</i>)	Notes
161, 164	Bring elements of the child justice system specified by the Committee on the Rights of the Child into line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and raise the age of criminal responsibility (<i>Lithuania, Mexico</i>)	Notes
170–173	Provide a system for the investigation, accountability for violations overseas committed by Australian military overseas and provide for reparations to victims of these violations and prevent impunity for perpetrators (<i>Syrian Arabic Republic, China, Islamic Republic of Iran, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>).	Notes
175	Repeal national security laws that violate the right to freedom of expression and the privacy of journalists and whistle-blowers (<i>Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela</i>)	Notes
176	Adopt a new media freedom act, protecting the freedom of the press in line with the international standard (<i>Somalia</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
177	Protect freedom of expression for those speaking out against government policies, including by amending national security laws that inhibit the speech of journalists, whistle-blowers and lawyers (<i>United States of America</i>)	Notes
178–179	Repeal laws criminalizing public interest reporting and provide civil society members, human rights defenders and journalists with a safe and secure environment to carry out their work / strengthen journalist warrant obligations (<i>Bangladesh, Netherlands</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
180	Carry out independent investigation at the national level in cases of pressure exercised by the authorities on journalists investigating the war crimes committed by Australian soldiers in Afghanistan and hold the perpetrators accountable (<i>Russian Federation</i>)	Notes
182	Further strengthen efforts aimed at full, effective and meaningful participation in political and public life for all persons, especially for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including amending electoral legislation depriving the right to vote of citizens serving a prison sentence (<i>Czechia</i>)	Notes
183	Ensure the right to vote for persons with disabilities and those convicted and given prison sentences, in line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Human Rights Committee (<i>Panama</i>)	Notes
200	Study, in close consultation with the stakeholders, the possibility of a universal basic income	Notes but will not consider further at this time
201	Develop plans and policies for poverty reduction with a human rights perspective and focused on Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 10 (<i>Paraguay</i>)	Notes
228	Take measures to harmonize state and territory legislation with respect to the reproductive health of women (<i>Kazakhstan</i>)	Notes
229	Fully incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic legislation and develop a national action plan for children to comprehensively protect children's rights, including by bringing the child justice system fully into line with the Convention (<i>Slovenia</i>)	Notes
231	Develop and implement a national plan for child well-being and a national children's data framework (<i>Malta</i>)	Notes
232, 233, 237	Incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child including through an action plan/strategy and include a focus on children with a disability (<i>Qatar, Romania</i>)	Notes
240 - 241	Ensure that all children with disabilities have access to inclusive education (<i>Timor-Leste, Montenegro</i>)	Notes
252	Ensure the rights of persons with disabilities, including participation in elections on an equal basis with others, and revoke legislation, policies and practices that result in the arbitrary and indefinite detention of persons with disabilities (<i>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</i>).	Notes
272–274, 285, 286	Develop, in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak organizations, a national action plan in order to implement the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples and include the Declaration in the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act (<i>Bangladesh, Canada, Costa Rica, Namibia, Netherlands</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
292, 293	Implement/encourage a human rights-based approach to migration and border management (<i>State of Palestine, Cambodia</i>)	Notes
294	Continue its efforts in adopting a human-rights based approach to migration and border management and consider utilizing alternatives to detention for migrant children (<i>Thailand</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
298	Eliminate cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of undocumented migrants and asylum seekers	Notes
304	Ensure adequate access by migrants to medical and legal services (<i>Russian Federation</i>)	Notes

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
305	Protect the rights of migrants and close offshore detention centres for migrants (<i>China</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
308	Amend legislation on migration in order to prohibit the detention of children in immigration centres and, in exceptional cases, ensure that such detention be for the shortest time possible (<i>Uruguay</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
309	Ensure implementation of a human rights approach in the offshore processing of migrants and asylum seekers (<i>Uganda</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
310	Review legislation on the mandatory detention of irregular migrants and halt the use of offshore detention centres in Nauru and Papua New Guinea (<i>Ireland</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
311	Ensure immigration detention is justified, time limited, and subject to prompt and regular judicial oversight (<i>Germany</i>)	Notes
312	Consider amending the Migration Act in order to prohibit the detention of minors and prioritize family reunification (<i>Costa Rica</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
313	Review its immigration detention regime to end the indefinite detention of people seeking asylum in Australia and to stop offshore processing of refugees and provide pathways to resettlement (<i>Finland</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
315	Ensure effective refugee status determination procedures and the principle of non-refoulement, and put an end to the policy for processing asylum applications offshore (<i>Costa Rica</i>)	Notes
324	Reverse the high level of discretion held over asylum seekers by the Department of Home Affairs (<i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i>)	Notes
325	End mandatory detention of refugees and prohibit offshore processing of asylum seekers (<i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
326	Review the immigration policies so as to improve the rights of refugees and asylum seekers, including by transferring to onshore centres asylum seekers waiting for a decision and taking into consideration the humanitarian aspects of the expulsion of foreign citizens with permanent resident visas (<i>Italy</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
327	Improve the conditions of reception and detention of refugees and migrants in accordance with international standards (<i>Algeria</i>)	Notes
328	Halt the offshore detention of refugees or asylum seekers arriving by sea (<i>Luxembourg</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
331	Continue its efforts to improve living conditions in immigration detention or processing centres (<i>Philippines</i>)	Notes
332	Take concrete steps to improve its treatment of asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants, including reducing the detention period and improving detention conditions (<i>Republic of Korea</i>)	Notes
333	Reduce the number of people held in immigration detention to maintain safety during the COVID-19 pandemic (<i>Rwanda</i>)	Notes
334	Amend the Migration Act 1958 to prohibit placing children in immigration detention (<i>Rwanda</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time

Rec No.	Recommendation and recommending state/s	Australia's response (July 2021)
335	Ensure that asylum seekers have access to a refugee status determination procedure in line with international law (<i>Brazil</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
336	Review the policy about offshore processing of asylum claims, as previously recommended (<i>Brazil</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
337	Strengthen asylum processes and border management policies to ensure that they fully comply with Australia's international obligations, including the principle of non-refoulement (<i>Fiji</i>)	Notes
338	Prioritize family reunification for all asylum seekers (<i>Montenegro</i>)	Notes but will not consider further at this time
340	Ensure that asylum seekers' claims are processed in accordance with the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and that detention only occurs when necessary and justified, for a minimum period of time, and is subject to timely judicial oversight (<i>Norway</i>)	Notes
341	Adopt a comprehensive strategy to deal with its nationals who were foreign terrorist fighters and their families, including their repatriation for prosecution or rehabilitation, and preventing a new wave of terrorism abroad (<i>Syrian Arab Republic</i>)	Notes
344	Amend Counter-Terrorism and national security legislation so that it does not unduly limit human rights, in particular freedom of expression and the right to privacy	Notes

Implementation status of voluntary commitments Australia made in 2021 and Australia’s Human Rights 75 (HR75) pledge

	Voluntary commitment ⁷ /HR75 pledge ⁸	Implementation status
Voluntary commitment	<p>The Government of Australia commits to a new national disability strategy for 2021–2030 that enables people with disabilities to fulfil their potential as equal members of the community.</p> <p>The strategy will continue to be the primary mechanism through which Australia implements its obligations under the <i>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>.</p> <p>The strategy will be informed by the 2019 concluding observations issued by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as extensive consultation with persons with disabilities, their families, carers, advocacy organizations, peak bodies and service providers.</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p><i>Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (ADS)</i> was reviewed through both public and targeted consultation and updated in 2024. Commitment to the Strategy was reaffirmed by all 3 levels of government in early 2025. Throughout the review, people with disability and representative organisations shared their perspectives on how governments can continue to improve the everyday lives of people with disability.</p> <p>See UPR recommendation 239, Australia’s Disability Strategy.</p>
Voluntary commitment	<p>The Government has an ongoing commitment to support older Australians in living in their own homes, reduce waiting times for home care packages and connect older Australians to essential care sooner.</p> <p>The Government commits to enabling access to home-based aged care services. A total of 99 per cent of people who have applied for a Home Care Package have been offered care in their home. This commitment has included the release of almost 50,000 packages, at a cost of \$3.3 billion, funded since the interim report of the Royal Commission Into Aged Care Quality and Safety interim report was handed down on 31 October 2019.</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>All Australian governments are committed to promoting the dignity, security and autonomy of older Australians and to strengthening their human rights protections.</p> <p>See UPR recommendations 98–99, human rights of older persons.</p>
Voluntary commitment	<p>The Government commits to developing a new national plan to continue efforts in reducing violence against women and children beyond 2022.</p> <p>The new plan will build on learning from the <i>Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022</i>, and from listening and responding to the diverse lived experience and knowledge of women and children affected by violence.</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to a country free of gender-based violence – where all people live free from fear and violence and are safe at home, at work, at school, in the community and online. This is a human right for all people.</p> <p>See UPR recommendations 128–133, 213–218, 220–227, combat family, domestic and sexual violence against women and girls.</p>

⁷ [A/HRC/47/8](#), paras. 148-158.

⁸ [Pledge submitted by Australia to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat December 2023](#), pledge number 1.

	Voluntary commitment⁷/HR75 pledge⁸	Implementation status
Voluntary commitment	<p>The Government commits to working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians on decisions that affect them.</p> <p>The Government commits to embedding this partnership approach through the joint design of options and models for an indigenous voice and sharing decision-making on closing the gap through a partnership agreement with the coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled peak organizations.</p>	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>The National Agreement on Closing the Gap is a landmark and unique commitment by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments to work together in partnership to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.</p> <p>See UPR recommendations 253, comprehensive strategy for First Nations people in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>
Voluntary commitment	<p>The Government commits to continue to work towards a referendum to recognize Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in the Constitution.</p> <p>The Government commits to a referendum to recognize Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Constitution and will support a referendum when it has the best chance of succeeding.</p>	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>On 14 October 2023, the Australian Government delivered on its commitment to hold a referendum about whether to change the Australian Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing a body called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.</p> <p>The referendum was not carried. The Australian Government respects the decision of the Australian people and the democratic process that delivered it. The outcome of the vote does not affect work already underway across the Australian Government to support better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It does not affect the Australian Government’s commitment to reconciliation.</p> <p>See UPR recommendations 51, 255, 256, 259, recognizing indigenous Australians in the Constitution.</p>
HR75 pledge	<p>The Australian government's pledge relates to Australia's commitment to counter modern slavery within Australia and abroad. The pledge recognises modern slavery is woven into supply chains and the economy, exacerbated by disparities of power and opportunity in the global economy. The pledge is to strengthen Australia’s <i>Modern Slavery Act</i> (legislation), to establish an Anti-Slavery Commissioner, and to continue to undertake efforts internationally, led by Australia’s Ambassador to Counter Modern Slavery, People Smuggling and Human Trafficking.</p>	<p><u>Implemented</u></p> <p>Since 2021, the Australian Government has continued to implement a strong program of initiatives to combat modern slavery.</p> <p>Australia continues its strong actions that address modern slavery, including human trafficking, not only at regional but also bilateral and international levels.</p> <p>The Australian Government is currently consulting on options to strengthen the operation of the Modern Slavery Act and is concurrently implementing other recommendations to enhance guidance for business and improve administration of the Act.</p> <p>In December 2024, the inaugural Australian Anti-Slavery Commissioner commenced their five-year term following a merit-based selection process.</p> <p>See UPR recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 184, effective implementation frameworks for combating forced labour and slavery • 186, work with regional partners to address trafficking in persons • 192, support for victims of human trafficking

	Voluntary commitment⁷/HR75 pledge⁸	Implementation status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 193–194, efforts to eradicate human trafficking, exploitation and slavery • 295, labour and immigration laws consistent with international standards.