Implementation of Second Cycle Recommendations

Australian Human Rights Commission

Australia's third UPR | 2021

Australia completed its second cycle review of the UPR in 2015. Australia received 290 recommendations from 110 different UN member states. At the time, Australia supported 150 of these recommendations and committed to implementing them.

The Australian Human Rights Commission has assessed how well each of the 290 recommendations have been implemented since 2015.

The status of all recommendations and explanatory analysis of our assessment can be found in the Commission's full 'implementation matrix'. A summary of the matrix can be found at Annex 2 of our Submission.

Of the recommendations accepted by Australia:

- 11% of the recommendations have been **fully** implemented over the past four years

- 80% have been **partly** implemented

- 9% **not** implemented.

Of all the recommendations made (including those supported and noted):

- 16% of **all** recommendations have been **fully** implemented over the past four years

- 50% have been **partly** implemented

- 34% **not** implemented.

Australia received a significant number of recommendations about the ratification of OPCAT. The Commission welcomed the ratifying of OPCAT in 2017 and urges the government to implement it without delay.

There have also been positive developments with the implementation of recommendations about increasing measures to address family and domestic violence and combat modern slavery.

The Commission notes however, despite the number of recommendations about the challenges facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, little progress has been made in this area.

There has also been minimal progress to ensure the rights of asylum seekers and refugees are protected and that they have access to fair and transparent decision-making processes.

The Commission remains concerned that there is no systematic approach to responding to treaty body or other international recommendations or to setting domestic priorities on human rights. These processes should include engagement with civil society and the use of measurable benchmarks.

These issues are explained in more detail in thematic fact sheets.