



## **Australia's National Statement**

**Delivered by HE Ian Biggs, Australian Permanent Representative to the United Nations  
in Vienna**

**32nd session of the CCPCJ, 22-26 May 2023**

Chair,

At this 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the CCPCJ, Australia is pleased to reiterate our support for the important work of the Commission, and for the international rules-based order.

Unfortunately, we continue to see actions that undermine our multilateral system.

It has now been more than a year since Russia launched its illegal and immoral invasion of Ukraine. We unequivocally condemn Russia's aggression and call on Russia to end its war and re-commit to the international rules and norms that we have all agreed to uphold.

Chair,

Only by working together will we solve our biggest problems. Crime represents a pervasive threat to stability, security and prosperity in all our countries, and criminals are increasingly operating across national borders. Australia understands that international cooperation is therefore key to effectively addressing crime, particularly transnational crime. We welcome the discussions we will have on crime prevention, access to justice and the rule of law over the coming week.

As we work towards ever more coordinated approaches, we must continue to ensure that fair, impartial, accessible and transparent justice systems are at the center of our efforts. These systems must be inclusive and responsive to the human rights and fundamental freedoms, needs and interests of all persons, including women, girls, persons of diverse gender identities, and others in situations of vulnerability. We are committed to ensuring that victim-survivors' rights are protected and that our system is responsive, inclusive and respectful of all forms of diversity.

Chair,

Civil society, the private sector, academia and the scientific community are important partners in this vital undertaking and can help us to understand areas where more work is needed, to bring diverse and under-represented perspectives to our deliberations, and to support the implementation of policies in accordance with international standards and norms.

Governments cannot tackle these complex challenges alone. A practical example can be found in Australia's ongoing work to combat online child sexual exploitation and abuse, a partnership between government, law enforcement, civil society and digital industry. We need to work with the private sector to take down child sexual abuse and exploitation material that is hosted on their websites, and work with civil society to support preventing the re-traumatisation of victims and survivors who continue to have their images shared online, sometimes into adulthood.

Australia is pleased to host a side event on Tuesday morning that will discuss how industry, governments, NGOs and law enforcement can work together to remove known child sexual abuse and exploitation material from online spaces – we invite all to attend.

Chair,

We look forward to continuing to work together to support effective, inclusive and age- and gender-responsive crime prevention and criminal justice approaches, and to participating in fruitful discussions over the coming week.

Thank you.