Note No. 674/2014

The Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders.

The Australian Permanent Mission has the honour to refer to the joint communication sent from the Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the United Nations Human Rights Council of 4 September 2014 concerning the Workplaces (Protection from Protesters) Bill 2014 (Tasmania).

The Australian Government regrets to advise it will be delayed in providing its response, and seeks an extension until 24 December 2014 to allow sufficient time to consult with the State of Tasmania. The Australian Government advises that the Bill is still before the Tasmanian Parliament.

The Australian Permanent Mission avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Special Procedures Mandate Holders and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

5 November 2014