

AUSTRALIA

Intervention

UNGA High Level Meeting on large movements of refugees and migrants (19 September 2016)

Australia is one of the most successful multicultural societies in the world. Our's is an immigration nation.

More than a quarter of our people were born overseas. Almost every UN member state is represented in our population.

Australians are not defined by religion or race; we are defined by a common commitment to shared political values: democracy, freedom, the rule of law,

underpinned by mutual respect

confidence that the Government can manage migration in a way that mitigates risks and focuses humanitarian assistance on those who need it the most.

This has had a direct impact on our ability to provide generous and effective support to

refugees.

Without this confidence, we would not have been able to increase our intake of refugees

Australia welcomes the momentum we are seeing in the UN system and internationally.

There is now stronger recognition that the international community must better share responsibility for helping those forced to leave their homes. All countries have a role to play.

providing refugees that sees our multicultural society grow from strength to strength, and

that supports international efforts to help the most vulnerable.