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| High Commissioner | AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION  DHAKA |

22 October 2013

**Statement to the media**

Australia welcomes the recent statements by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition proposing solutions to Bangladesh’s political challenges.

We encourage all sides to seize this opportunity for peaceful, constructive dialogue on a way forward.

Australia greatly values its long-standing, thriving relationship with Bangladesh, and looks forward to our further partnership as regional countries.

Greg Wilcock

Australian High Commissioner, Dhaka