

AWSA PO Box 849, Rozelle, NSW 2039 web: awsa.org.au email: info@awsa.org.au

PRESS RELEASE

The Australia Western Sahara Association welcomes the recently concluded first round of negotiations held on 5-6 December 2018 in Geneva on the UN mandate to conduct a referendum on the sovereignty of Western Sahara.

"We are very pleased that the two parties – the Government of Morocco and Polisario – have met after six years of suspended negotiations" said AWSA President, Lyn Allison.

"We thank the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Horst Köhler, former President of Germany, and all those who contributed to the resumption of the negotiations process."

"AWSA sincerely hopes these negotiations continue and will lead to the organisation of a free and fair referendum to enable the people of Western Sahara to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination" continued Ms Allison.

AWSA reaffirms its solidarity and support for the people of Western Sahara who have suffered much during four decades of occupation of their homeland. It is time that their 43-year plight ended, and they are able to return to their homeland to live in peace, freedom and dignity.

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