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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Port Arthur Tenth Anniversary – A Time for Respect and Tributes

The International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH) today expressed hope that April 28th, the tenth anniversary of Australia's Port Arthur massacre, will be marked by respectful commemorations.

"While remembering those who lost their lives, let us also pay tribute to the courageous individuals who survived, and to the strength of human spirit," urged WiSH Chairwoman Ms Samara McPhedran

"The heart and grace shown by those most directly affected by the tragedy is inspiring, and deserves the highest respect."

"We must not allow this anniversary to be cheapened by insensitive media coverage, or cynically exploited as a platform for other agendas. This has happened too often in the past, and it is time to move beyond such behaviour."

"Each year, April 28th serves as a reminder that loss never fades. The upcoming tenth anniversary of Port Arthur is also a chance for recognising the ongoing tenacity and will shown by survivors of that awful day," said Ms McPhedran.

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WOMEN ON TARGET FOR POSITIVE CHANGE