JOINT STATEMENT









20 March 2025

Joint Statement by AAM, ANIC, LMA and UMA on the Recent Mosque Massacre Threats Online

The Alliance of Australians for Muslims (AAM) and The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC), together with the Lebanese Muslim Association (LMA) and United Muslims of Australia (UMA), are demanding tougher action to combat the rise in Islamophobic attacks.

Mosques in Sydney have recently been subjected to a disturbing increase in threats, echoing the tragic events of the Christchurch massacre, where an Australian terrorist murdered 51 Muslims and injured an equal number in two mosques in Christchurch. These threats come at a time when mosques are filled to capacity, with thousands of worshippers attending prayers throughout the day during the month of Ramadan. Less than a week after the commemoration of this horrific massacre.

Shocking comments left under videos on the LMA and UMA social media pages (Tiktok), such as "Christchurch again please" on the LMA account, and "can't wait till this place gets the Christchurch treatment" on the UMA account, highlight the disturbing rise in Islamophobia and the lack of sufficient legal protection against such hate.

The Muslim community is once again left feeling unsafe, with many fearing for their safety while gathering in places of worship during its holiest month and peak days. This wave of Islamophobia not only threatens individuals but also undermines the fabric of social harmony in Australia.

The fact that direct calls for a massacre against Muslims are not covered under the current hate speech laws sends a troubling message to Muslim Australians—that their safety is not a priority. We demand that the government take immediate action to strengthen laws that address anti-Muslim hate and ensure the safety and well-being of Australian Muslims.

For all media enquiries and further information, please contact: <u>media@anic.org.au</u> or secretary@lma.org.au