



Rowan McRae
Office of International Law
Attorney-General's Department
Email: upr@ag.gov.au

By email

20 August 2010

Dear Ms McRae

Universal Periodic Review of Australia: Australian Government's Draft Report

We refer to your email dated 8 July 2010 inviting public comment on the Australian Government's Universal Periodic Review ('UPR') draft National Report. We also refer to our submission to the Australian Government on 20 April 2010 providing our initial views regarding Australia's UPR.

WLS NSW is a community legal centre that aims to achieve access to justice and a just legal system for women in NSW. We seek to promote women's human rights, redress inequalities experienced by women and to foster legal and social change through strategic legal services, community development, community legal education and law and policy reform work. We prioritise women who are disadvantaged by their cultural, social and economic circumstances. We provide specialist legal services relating to domestic and family violence, sexual assault, family law, discrimination, victims compensation, care and protection, human rights and access to justice. Our submission of the 20 April 2010 was informed by the experiences of our clients.

We are disappointed to note the important issues raised and recommendations made in our submission have not been adequately addressed in the UPR draft National Report. These include recommendations for: funding of National Indigenous Women's representative bodies; proper funding of the implementation of the National Plan, including funding for independent monitoring of the National Plan and resourcing of community organisations to participate; greater access to family violence and sexual assault services; better protection of women and children in the area of family law-family violence; funding for separate Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander women's legal services.

We attach our initial submission again for your consideration in the final UPR National Report.



For more information, please contact Liz Snell on ph (02) 8745 6900 or
Liz_Snell@wlsnsw.org.au

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

L Snell

Liz Snell
Solicitor

Women's Legal Services NSW

**Encl: Submission - Universal Periodic Review of Australia: Issues for inclusion in Australian
Government's Report, 20 April 2010**