*Communiqué*

Mapping the Indigenous Estate Roundtable

Canberra, 31 March 2016

In 2015, the Australian Human Rights Commission (the Commission) convened a Roundtable on Yawuru Country in Broome to identify opportunities and challenges to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples engaging in economic development opportunities on the Indigenous Estate. ([Broome Roundtable Communique](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/IndigenousLeadersRoundtable_communique_2015_AHRC.pdf)). A follow up meeting was held on Gadigal Country, hosted by KPMG in Sydney, to plan and establish a governance structure for this Indigenous led work. An Indigenous Strategy Group was nominated to guide the work of the broader Indigenous Property Rights Network, supported by the Commission. One of the key outcomes from the Sydney meeting was the tasking of the Commission with mapping the Indigenous Estate so participants can consider opportunities and challenges for economic and social development.

In March this year, a second Roundtable was held in Canberra, hosted by the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). At this Roundtable the Commission reported back on its work creating an inventory of existing state, territory and Commonwealth legislation which recognise or create rights and interests that make up the Indigenous Estate as well as heritage protection laws. At the meeting the National Native Title Tribunal provided an update and demonstration of its extensive geospatial mapping work - an online tool which visually represents different types of title and interests on land.

Participants agreed there was value in working together with the National Native Title Tribunal to progress the development and design of a national mapping tool.

**Roundtable outcomes**

At the Sydney meeting, participants agreed that that the foundational purpose of the work of the Indigenous Property Rights Network is to secure the Indigenous Estate, and that it should be based on international human rights principles. A set of [Guiding Principles](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/projects/indigenous-property-rights#guiding_principles) were drafted and presented for consideration at the Canberra meeting.

Participants considered existing legislation discussed a range of legislative and non-legislative ideas for reform of native title and Indigenous land rights. All agreed that any proposals for reform would be based on the principle of strengthening and securing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights and interests in their lands, seas, waters and resources.

They agreed that the Commission will conduct further analysis and research for consideration at future Roundtables.

They also agreed that the Commission will convene the next meeting with financial institutions and the Indigenous Property Rights Network in May 2016.

Future meetings in 2016 are scheduled for the National Native Title Conference and Garma Festival.

**Roundtable Attendees**

**31 March 2016**

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| Allyson Campbell | Australian Human Rights Commission |
| Amber Roberts | Australian Human Rights Commission |
| Andrew Peters  | Senior Legal Officer, Attorney General’s Department (observer) |
| Brian Stacey | Head of Policy, Cape York Partnerships |
| Carmen Miragaya | Attorney General’s Department (observer) |
| Chris Fry | CEO, Indigenous Business Australia |
| Daniel Owen | Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet |
| David Ross | Director, Central Land Council |
| Debbie Pigram | Chairperson, Nyamba Buru Yawuru  |
| Don BellEdward Fry | Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (observer)Chairperson, Indigenous Land Corporation  |
| Gavin Brown | PwC Indigenous Consulting |
| Glen Kelly | CEO, National Native Title Council |
| Janet Hunt | Deputy Director, Centre for Aboriginal and Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) |
| Jason Behrendt | Legal Executive, Chalk & Fitzgerald Lawyers & Consultants |
| Jessica Foote | Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (observer) |
| Jonathan Kneebone | Managing Lawyer, Native Title Services Victoria |
| Kate George | Director, Clay Pan Services |
| Kerry Colbung | CEO, Aboriginal Lands Trust SA |
| Leo Bator | Ag/CEO, Indigenous Land Corporation |
| Lisa Strelein | Executive Director – Research, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) |
| Louise Bygrave | Australian Human Rights Commission |
| Mark McInerney | Geospatial Manager, National Native Title Tribunal |
| Mark Rumler | Principal Legal Officer, Goldfields Land and Sea Council |
| Michael O’Donnell | Principal Legal Officer, Northern Land Council |
| Mick Gooda | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission |
| Noel Bridge  | Managing Director, First Acuity Management Enterprises |
| Nolan Hunter | CEO, Kimberley Land Council |
| Nyunggai Warren Mundine | Chair, Prime Minister’s Indigenous Advisory Council |
| Oliver Gilkerson | Gilkerson Legal  |
| Parry Agius | Presiding Member, Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board |
| Rebecca Laws | Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (observer) |
| Rob Powrie | Practice Director, National Native Title Tribunal |
| Robynne Quiggin | Australian Human Rights Commission |
| Rod Kennett | Senior Research Fellow, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) (observer) |
| Rod Little | Co-Chair, National Congress of Australia's First Peoples |
| Russell Taylor | Principal, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) |
| Tran Tran | Research Fellow, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) (observer) |
| Valerie Cooms | Member, National Native Title Tribunal |
| Virgina Leek | Aboriginal Heritage Coordinator, SA Department of State Development |
| Virginia Marshall | Principal Solicitor, Triple BL Legal |
| Wayne See Kee | CEO, Torres Strait Regional Authority |