



Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability

Submission 25
TT 4 June 2008

Mr Kelvin Thomson MP
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Mr Thomson

UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Thank you for your letter dated 4 June 2008 inviting us to comment further on the treaty. The Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability – Western Australia supports and has followed closely the progress toward ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We have had representation throughout the process at a national level with other state and territory advisory councils, disability organisations and advocacy bodies. Our representative, Jane Eacott, has participated throughout the process as a member of the National Taskforce on ratification of the convention. We have been well informed and pleased with the opportunity to comment and raise points for clarification throughout the process.

Jane Eacott attended the June 2007 workshop in Sydney, convened by HREOC, to develop the capacity of the disability community to engage with and contribute to the process of ratification and implementation of the convention. In addition she attended the February 2008 workshop in Melbourne, convened by AFDO, to deliberate and contribute to the report to the Federal Government on a National Impact Analysis.

We believe the process has embraced the broadest possible consultation and contribution has been reflected appropriately. We are confident that all relevant areas have been explored.

We congratulate all contributors in the ratification process and look forward to an early ratification of this historic and important treaty.

Yours sincerely

Kerry Allan-Zinner
Chairperson

16 June 2008