



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Affairs report:

Indigenous Australia at work: successful initiatives in
Indigenous employment

OCTOBER 2012

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS' REPORT 'INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA AT
WORK: SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES IN INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT.**

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (HoRSCATSIA) released the report of its Inquiry into *'Indigenous Australia at work: successful initiatives in Indigenous employment'* on 13 August 2007. The report contains 14 recommendations. The previous Government did not respond to the report or its recommendations prior to the 2007 Federal Election.

The current Government has been pursuing a significant reform agenda in Indigenous employment policy since the 2007 Federal Election. Signature initiatives include reforming the Indigenous Employment Program and the rollout of Job Services Australia (replacing the previous Job Network), both of which took place on 1 July 2009. Reforms like these are changing the way employment and related services are delivered to engage and support Indigenous job seekers.

Furthermore, following the change of Government after the 2007 Federal Election, a number of programs and initiatives referred to in the HoRSCATSIA report have moved from the DEEWR portfolio to other departments, as part of various Machinery of Government changes.

Given the significant employment policy reforms undertaken by Government since 2007, there has been a significant change in the context on which the HoRSCATSIA report was based. As such the HoRSCATSIA report has been overtaken by the Government's reforms and the associated change in context.