



## Indigenous enterprises and businesses in Victoria

Strategies already in place to assist with the development of Indigenous enterprises will be on the agenda of a public hearing in Melbourne on Monday 14 July.

The House of Representatives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee will hear from a range of individuals and organisations as part of its inquiry into developing Indigenous enterprises.

Organisations appearing before the Committee include the Koori Business Network, Rio Tinto and the Darebin Enterprise Centre.

The Committee will also hold a roundtable with representatives from financial institutions, Indigenous businesses, Koori Women Mean Business and First Nations Foundation.

“There are many individuals and groups who are already involved in programs to support Indigenous enterprises or running enterprises in Victoria,” Committee Chair Mr Marles said. “The Committee is very interested in hearing what worked, where more help is needed and how this can be best provided.”

“The Committee was also interested in the idea of the 2008 Victorian Indigenous Business Directory, which highlighted Indigenous participation and the diversity of economic contribution from Indigenous business operators and resource providers across Victoria,” Mr Marles said.

Submissions to the inquiry can be made until Friday 18 July 2008.

### Public hearing schedule on 14 July 2008

Venue: Conference Room, Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Ltd, 171 Smith Street, Fitzroy.

11.00am	Koori Business Network
11.30pm	Mr Donald de Busch
12.00pm	Rio Tinto
1.15pm	Darebin Enterprise Centre Ltd
2.00pm	Roundtable

Further details on the inquiry can be obtained from the Committee’s website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/atsia>.

For **media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Richard Marles MP, on 02 6277 4330 (Canberra) or 03 5221 3033 (electorate office)

For **background information**, please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or by email at [atsia.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:atsia.reps@aph.gov.au).