

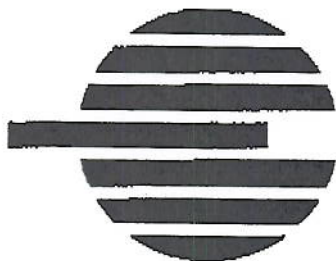
Senate Legal & Constitutional Affairs Committee
Budget Estimates 2008-2009
25-28 May 2009

Tabled Document No 5

By: *AUST HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION*

Date: *25 MAY 2009.*

**Human Rights and Equal
Opportunity Commission**
humanrights.gov.au



COMMISSION MINUTES PUBLISHED ON THE
COMMISSION INTRANET ARE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED
OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE COMMISSION

**HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
COMMISSION**

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

3 June 2008

Minutes of the Meeting of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) held on Tuesday, 3 June 2008 commencing at 9:40 am in the President's office, HREOC offices, 133 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Present: President von Doussa; Commissioners Broderick, Calma and Innes; Ms Roberts; and Ms Corkery.

- The Durban Review Conference: the Durban Review Conference will be held in Geneva in 2009. Commissioner Calma reported that there will also be a pre-Conference meeting in Geneva in October, following the meeting of the Special Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous People. President von Doussa commented that some western states had raised concerns about the conference and thought that it was important to find out the Australian Government's position [Action Item 19].



**Australian
Human Rights
Commission**

awrc.com.au / hrc.hqs.gov.au

COMMISSION MINUTES PUBLISHED ON THE
COMMISSION INTRANET ARE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED
OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE COMMISSION

AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

11 November 2008

Minutes of the Meeting of the Australian Human Rights Commission held on Tuesday, 11 November 2008, commencing at 9:50am in Conference Room 1, at the Commission's offices, 133 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Present: President Branson; Commissioner Broderick, Commissioner Calma; Commissioner Innes; Ms Roberts; and Ms Hollonds.

Also, Kate Temby, Sarah Winter, Susan Newell, Paul Oliver, Frances Simmons.

5.4.1 Strategic Policy Unit

The Commission noted the Strategic Policy Unit Report.

Regarding the Race Relations Roundtable, the members will now meet annually and all observe Diversity Week. It is now up to the states to decide what they want to pursue. The UTS national racism and sport conference is also expected to be positive, addressing issues facing all different sporting codes and the programs that they have in place. It has the potential to receive media coverage. The Durban

25-05-2008 10:19

FROM-HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

+61-2-92849797

T-556 P.029/039 F-440

Australian Human Rights Commission

Minutes of the Commission Meeting, 11 November 2008

Review preparatory meetings have commenced. Some countries are strong supporters of the process while others are strongly opposed. Caroline Millar feels that there are some countries who are now supportive. She would like to promote Australian Indigenous rights internationally. The Australian government has not yet indicated whether it will attend in 2009. The Commission should not pull back on participation just because there is a risk that Islam will become a major issue.



**Australian
Human Rights
Commission**
everyone everywhere, everyday

**COMMISSION MINUTES PUBLISHED ON THE
COMMISSION INTRANET ARE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED
OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

17 December 2008

Minutes of the Meeting of the Australian Human Rights Commission held on Wednesday, 17 December 2008, commencing at 9:40am in Conference Room 1, at the Commission's offices, 133 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Present: President Branson; Commissioner Broderick, Commissioner Calma; Commissioner Innes; Ms Roberts; and Ms Hollonds.

3.2 Durban Review Conference, April 2009

Marg Donaldson attended to discuss the paper on the Commission's participation in the Durban Review Conference.

President Branson reported her discussions with Caroline Millar about the Conference. According to CM, the Australian Government is cautious about whether to attend, but so far no official has attempted to urge them to attend. CM said that New Zealand will be attending, but is remaining fairly quiet, intervening only on 'soft' issues. The UK's position is determined by the EU's position. The position of the US is unknown. CM recommended that Australia attend the conference and take soft approach, making only strategic interventions.

Commissioner Calma noted that it is important to have good representation of Indigenous peoples at the Conference. Depending on other engagements at the time, he will most likely take a member of RDU to attend with him.

Part of RDU's role in coordinating the Commission's participation will include liaising with DFAT, in particular in relation to the questionnaire on the Durban Review that has been received. RDU can also engage with NGOs in preparation for the conference.

Decision: The Commission approved the recommendation that the Commission attend the Durban Review Conference. The Commission will engage with DFAT and NGOs in preparation for the Conference. RDU will report on the status of preparations for the Conference at the Commission meeting in February. **[Action item 2]**