

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO THAT CONTAINED IN THE COMMUNIQUE

COMMONWEALTH-STATE FINANCIAL RELATIONS – REFORM OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE PAYMENTS (SPPs)

The proposed new financial framework provides the platform for a new wave of economic and social reform to increase the productive capacity of the economy, address the inflationary pressures that are emerging, and provides the States with flexibility and incentives to deliver the quality of services that Australians deserve.

Objectives

The objectives of the reform of SPP arrangements include:

- increased flexibility for resources to be allocated to areas where they will produce the best overall outcomes for the community;
- genuinely collaborative working arrangements, including clearly defined roles and responsibilities and fair and sustainable financial arrangements to facilitate a long-term policy focus and reduce blame shifting;
- providing incentives for wide-ranging reforms in areas of joint responsibility. In assessing the level of incentives for reforms the Commonwealth will have regard to, *inter alia*, the economic benefits of the proposed reforms;
- increased accountability to the community; and
- reduced administration and compliance overheads.

COAG **agreed** to the recommendations of the Ministerial Council for Commonwealth-State Financial Relations for a new framework for Commonwealth-State financial relations based on six key elements:

- a significant rationalisation of SPPs, primarily through combining many of them into a smaller number of new national SPP agreements, without a reduction in total Commonwealth funding for these activities;
- mutually-agreed statements of roles and responsibilities, objectives and outcomes for each of the new national SPP agreements, with the SPPs to be on-going rather than for fixed periods, but subject to review. The objectives, outputs and outcomes for each of the new agreements will replace input controls in current agreements;
- simpler, standardised and more transparent performance reporting by all jurisdictions, with a new focus on the achievement of outcomes, value for money and timely public reporting by all jurisdictions;
- the provision of National Partnership (NP) payments to fund specific projects and to drive reforms of national importance;
- overall funding arrangements to be negotiated as a financial package by Treasurers; and

- all aspects of the arrangements endorsed and actively monitored through a reinvigorated COAG process, including a COAG Intergovernmental Agreement to underpin the reforms.

COAG agreed that consideration of legitimate and additional financial implications for the States and Territories included in the reports from Working Groups relating to Commonwealth election commitments will be included as an addition to the work of Treasurers in the final determination of the new generation SPPs at year's end.

COAG agreed that the role of the COAG Working Groups (or Ministerial Councils in areas not covered by a Working Group) in the reforms will include developing the statements of objectives and outcomes for each new SPP, and proposing new specific projects and reforms that could be supported by NP payments.

Reform Agenda

Following its agreement to the new financial framework, COAG will consider the reporting framework in July 2008 and funding framework in October 2008. COAG will consider the final funding package and a new Intergovernmental Agreement in December 2008. The new arrangements will commence from 1 January 2009.

TREATMENT OF MAJOR SPPs

In line with the agreement to new Commonwealth-State financial arrangements, the table below provides an indication of the indicative treatment of the major SPPs. The final arrangements will be agreed by COAG in October 2008.

Specific Purpose Payment	Expires	Indicative Treatment
Health care grants	30 June 2008	See page one of the Communique.
National Public Health	30 June 2009	To be incorporated into a new national healthcare agreement from 1 July 2009.
Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement Housing Assistance for Indigenous people Community Housing Crisis accommodation assistance	30 June 2008	Agreement to be extended on the basis of current terms and conditions, including existing indexation arrangements, to 1 January 2009, pending development of a new national affordable housing agreement.
Supported Accommodation Assistance	30 June 2010	To be incorporated into a new national affordable housing agreement from 1 January 2009.
Indigenous housing and infrastructure	30 June 2008	To be converted to a national partnerships agreement in the context of the new national affordable housing agreement from 1 January 2009.
Government schools – recurrent Non-government schools – recurrent Targeted programs – government schools and joint Targeted programs – non-government schools Skilling Australia's Workforce	31 December 2008	To be incorporated into new national education agreements from 1 January 2009.
Government schools – capital Non-government schools – capital	31 December 2008	Treasurers are giving further consideration to the treatment of these SPPs.
Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement	30 June 2008	Agreement to be extended on the basis of current terms and conditions, including existing indexation arrangements to 1 January 2009, pending development of a new national disabilities services agreement.
Young people with disabilities	30 June 2011	To be incorporated into a new national disabilities services agreement from 1 January 2009.
Highly specialised drugs Essential vaccines	Ongoing 30 June 2009	To become a Commonwealth Own Purpose Expense from 1 January 2009.
Home and Community Care	Ongoing	COAG is giving further consideration to the treatment of this SPP.
Legal aid	31 December 2008	To become a national partnerships agreement from 1 January 2009.
Extension of fringe benefits	Ongoing	To be converted to a national partnerships agreement from 1 January 2009.
Royalties Compensation – companies regulation	Ongoing	To be rolled into general revenue assistance.

WORKING GROUP ON HEALTH AND AGEING

Objective: to improve health outcomes for all Australians and the sustainability of the Australian health system.

COAG agreed:

- in relation to the Australian Health Care Agreements, the Commonwealth would commit an immediate allocation of \$1 billion to relieve pressure for 2008-09 on public hospitals. This \$1 billion is made up of the indexation of the previous Commonwealth allocation for 2007-08 plus a further \$500 million in additional new money. Overall, this means an increase in Commonwealth funding for public hospitals for 2008-09 of 10.2 per cent. This decision reverses the national trend of Commonwealth cutbacks to hospital funding over the past five years;
- that in developing the new health care agreement there would be a review of the indexation formulas for the years ahead. COAG also agreed that the new Australian Health Agreement should move to a proper long-term share of Commonwealth funding for the public hospital system;
- that the new health care agreement would be signed in December 2008 with a commencement date for the new funding arrangements of 1 July 2009;
- for jurisdictions, as appropriate, to move to a more nationally-consistent approach to activity-based funding for services provided in public hospitals – but one which also reflects the Community Service Obligations required for the maintenance of small and regional hospital services;
- and signed an Intergovernmental Agreement to underpin a national registration and accreditation scheme for health professions to be implemented by 1 July 2010. The scheme will be self funding although COAG will contribute \$19.8 million to assist with establishment costs. Health ministers will manage implementation and will undertake further consultation with stakeholders on implementation. COAG agreed that health ministers may include other professional groups in the scheme after implementation:-
 - nine health professions will be initially covered by the scheme as announced by COAG in July 2006 including: medical practitioners; nurses and midwives; pharmacists; physiotherapists; psychologists; osteopaths; chiropractors; optometrists; and dentists (including dental hygienists, dental prosthetists and dental therapists). The scheme will provide for the protection of the public, facilitate workforce mobility, reduce red tape, facilitate the provision of high-quality education and training, have regard to the public interest in promoting access to health services and also have regard to the need to enable continuous development of a flexible, responsive and sustainable Australian health workforce;

- to ask Skills Australia to advise COAG at its July 2008 meeting on the possible allocation of up to 50,000 additional vocational education and training places over three years, in consultation with the COAG Working Groups and the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council. The additional training places will be provided from the Skilling Australia for the Future program, including where appropriate through the training places to be jointly funded between the Commonwealth and States and Territories;
- to its key health reform priorities noting that the Working Group will focus its attention on priority actions that are able to be developed and reported to COAG in October 2008 and that the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission (NHHRC) will focus on a longer term reform agenda:-
 - the Working Group is to bring forward to COAG in October 2008 work on:
 - a new Healthcare Agreement which encompasses preventative health, primary, acute and aged care and includes:
 - a. a Health Compact that establishes a shared vision for the health system and enables performance of all jurisdictions to be measured and reported to the community,
 - b. a nationally-consistent approach for jurisdictions, as appropriate, to move towards activity-based funding for services provided in public hospitals, but one which also reflects the Community Service Obligations required for the maintenance of small and regional hospital services; and
 - c. clarification of the roles and responsibilities of governments,
 - preventative health care addressing key risk factors for chronic disease and including Preventative Healthcare Partnerships,
 - streamlining care for older Australians (including reviewing the intersection between acute care, residential aged care and Home and Community Care (HACC) funding, policy and service delivery),
 - opportunities to improve the operation of the HACC program noting the interaction with both the aged care and the disability sector,
 - early work on an Indigenous reform package, in consultation with the Indigenous Reform Working Group, noting the importance of child and maternal health and alcohol and substance abuse,
 - the highest priority actions to address immediate workforce gaps,
 - opportunities for early deliverables in E-Health, and preparing for the consideration of the business case for the Shared Electronic Health Record,
 - opportunities to improve the impact of work previously agreed by COAG, including mental health and the Australian Better Health Initiative, and
 - any other immediate actions that can be taken to improve health outcomes ahead of more systemic reform efforts,
 - this work relates to the responsibilities of the Commonwealth, States and Territories and is needed urgently to inform the new National Healthcare Agreement to be signed by December 2008. To achieve this by December 2008 will require active involvement of the States and Territories, in consideration of many complex matters with whole-of-government

implications. The Working Group will consult with the NHHRC in the conduct of its work;

- the NHHRC will provide advice to the Working Group in April 2008 on performance measures for inclusion in the National Healthcare Agreement, consistent with the terms of reference approved by COAG in December 2007. The NHHRC has been tasked with providing this advice as it will underpin the development of a performance framework for the whole health system; and
- in addition, the NHHRC will, as part of a plan for long-term health reform, provide final advice by June 2009 on:-
 - Commonwealth-State and Territory roles, responsibilities and financing for the health sector,
 - the public-private health sector interface,
 - health workforce planning and reform,
 - system changes to improve services at the interface of: chronic care and services for the elderly, and preventative, primary and hospital care,
 - ensuring sustainable, equitable access to health care, including in rural and regional areas, and
 - Indigenous health reform.
- The NHHRC has been tasked with providing this advice as it has a cross-cutting impact on Commonwealth, State and Territory responsibilities and may be used to inform consideration of NP payments as a supplement to the National Healthcare Agreement. The NHHRC will consult with the Working Group in the conduct of its work.

COAG approved as a basis for further work:

- the six Commonwealth-State implementation plans for Commonwealth election commitments on:-
 - preventative health care – the establishment of the Preventative Health Care Taskforce, developing the National Health Care Strategy and implementing the Preventative Health Care Partnerships,
 - the Commonwealth dental health program, delivering up to one million consultations and services over three years,
 - elective surgery waiting list reduction plan providing \$600 million in assistance to the States and Territories over four years to improve hospital services,
 - GP Super Clinics which, subject to local support and submission of satisfactory proposals, will see 31 clinics commissioned by June 2011,
 - attracting more than 10,000 nurses into our hospital and aged care systems, and
 - a Transition Care initiative – providing an additional 2,000 transition care places for older Australians including Indigenous Australians, over the next four years.

WORKING GROUP ON THE PRODUCTIVITY AGENDA: EDUCATION, SKILLS, TRAINING AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Substantial reform of Australia's education and training systems is required to boost productivity and participation in the economy, improve human capital outcomes for all Australians and reduce entrenched disadvantage in Indigenous and other communities.

Objectives: To pursue substantial reform in the areas of education, skills and early childhood development, to deliver significant improvements in human capital outcomes for all Australians. To strengthen Australia's economic and social foundations through this reform workplan, including in relation to teacher quality.

COAG agreed:

- to the aspirations, outcomes, indicative progress measures, COAG targets and policy directions identified by the Working Group which will form the basis of future work on the new national education agreements;
- to the following additional high-level targets:-
 - that in five years all Indigenous four year olds in remote Indigenous communities will have access to a quality early childhood education program,
 - at least halve the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 or equivalent attainment rates by 2020,
 - halve the proportion of Australians aged 20-64 without qualifications at Certificate III level and above between 2009 and 2020, and
 - double the number of higher qualification completions (diploma and advanced diploma) between 2009 and 2020;
- to further develop reforms in the areas of early childhood development, schooling and skills and workforce development; and
- to the development of a national partnership agreement focused in particular on the educational needs of lower socio-economic status school communities.

COAG approved as a basis for further work:

- the implementation plans, relating to Commonwealth election commitments, requested at COAG's December 2007 meeting:-
 - universal access to early childhood education for all children in the year before formal schooling,
 - Quality Standards and rating system for child care and preschool,
 - Early Childhood Development Workforce,
 - National Early Childhood Development Performance Information Strategy,
 - Digital Education Revolution,
 - Trade Training Centres in Schools Program,

- establishing the National Curriculum Board and developing national curriculum,
- lifting secondary school attainment rates,
- National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program - promoting the study of Asian languages in schools,
- Australian Technical Colleges,
- additional Training Places for Existing Workers, and
- allocation of additional training places for jobseekers.

WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER

Climate Change

Climate change represents one of the greatest economic and environmental challenges of our age and it is important that Australia address this challenge in a comprehensive way. This action includes reducing our domestic emissions at least cost and adapting to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. A national approach to dealing with this issue is required.

The introduction of emissions trading to achieve significant emissions reductions will constitute the most significant economic and structural reform undertaken in Australia since the trade liberalisation and financial market reforms of the 1980s. Cooperative action between governments is essential to ensure that the introduction of the scheme is undertaken in a way that minimises the economic costs of reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions. COAG agreed on the importance of developing a coherent and streamlined set of climate change mitigation measures across jurisdictions to complement the emissions trading scheme. This will help reduce our domestic emissions at least cost.

Similarly, the different approaches across jurisdictions on renewable energy targets need to be combined into one national scheme to provide consistency for investors looking to support Australia's renewable energy industry. Significant cooperative efforts are needed to enable Australia to adapt to climate change.

Objective: To ensure an effective national response to climate change, encompassing:

- a single national Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) incorporating State and Territory schemes;
- a nationally-consistent set of climate change measures to support the ETS; and
- a national cooperative approach to long-term adaptation to climate change.

COAG approved as a basis for further work the implementation plans for the Renewable Energy Target and Complementary Measures.

COAG agreed that the Working Group is to provide a report on options for a harmonised approach to feed-in tariffs for consideration at its October 2008 meeting.

COAG noted:

- the progress reports on the ETS consultations;
- the progress on the development of a national Renewable Energy Target, with the final design to be presented to COAG in October 2008;
- a draft set of principles to define the respective roles and responsibilities of jurisdictions in delivering measures that are complementary to the ETS, with the proposed timetable for each jurisdiction to review and streamline its measures to be provided to COAG in October 2008;
- the further development of options to accelerate uptake of energy efficiency measures and that proposed options would be put to COAG at its meeting in October 2008; and
- that the implementation plan for long-term adaptation to climate change will be provided for consideration by COAG at its October 2008 meeting, including

accelerating implementation of suitable actions under the agreed National Adaptation Framework across all jurisdictions.

Water

Australia faces major challenges in the face of a drying climate and rising demand for water. Considerable progress has been made by jurisdictions over the past 25 years in rural and urban water reform but significant challenges remain. Streamflows in the Murray-Darling Basin, for example, are projected to fall as a result of climate change and other factors. Currently water extraction from many rivers and aquifers is still unsustainable. Rural water markets are not working as effectively as they could. Urban water and wastewater management including investment in new water supplies needs to be bolstered through appropriate pricing, planning and institutional arrangements to ensure appropriate investments occur into the future.

Objective: To ensure sustainable water use across Australia.

COAG noted the comprehensive stocktake report on water infrastructure and the progress of water reform.

COAG agreed:

- the forward work program for rural water reform, including in the Murray-Darling Basin, encompassing:-
 - extending the CSIRO Murray-Darling Basin ‘Sustainable Yields’ study to south-western Western Australia, Tasmania and northern Australia to provide a more robust estimate of water availability, for completion by June 2009,
 - coordinating Commonwealth and State environmental water recovery programs for healthy rivers in the Murray-Darling Basin by July 2008,
 - enhancing water markets by reviewing the four per cent limit on out of district permanent trade for the southern Murray-Darling Basin by July 2008,
 - ensuring compatible electronic registers are in place by April 2009 and examine the feasibility of moving to a national common register to improve water market performance, and
 - assessing performance of water supply and waste water systems in remote communities (including remote Indigenous communities) by July 2008; and
- to release for consultation the following principles for urban water reform, as part of a renewed approach to national urban water reform, leveraged through \$1.5 billion in new Commonwealth Government urban water security programs:-
 - deliver urban water supplies in accordance with agreed levels of service including specified levels of reliability and safety,
 - base urban water planning on the best information available at the time and invest in acquiring information on an ongoing basis to improve continually the knowledge base,
 - adopt a partnership approach so that the community is able to make an informed contribution to urban water planning, including consideration of the appropriate supply-demand balance,
 - manage water in the urban context on a whole-of-water-cycle basis,

- consider the full portfolio of water supply and demand options, from both natural and manufactured water sources,
- develop and manage urban water supplies within sustainable limits,
- use pricing and, where efficient and feasible, market mechanisms to help achieve planned urban water supply-demand balance, and
- periodically review the assumptions upon which urban water plans are based and make adjustments if the assumptions change;
- to conduct a comprehensive national audit of skills needs and gaps in the water sector by June 2008, to support urban and rural water reform; and
- to develop further reform proposals for COAG consideration in October 2008, in the following priority areas:-
 - addressing over-allocation and improving environmental outcomes,
 - enhancing water markets,
 - urban water reforms, and
 - human resources, skills and information.

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING GROUP

Australia's physical infrastructure provides an essential input to virtually all economic activities and contributes directly to community well being. Australia's infrastructure is approaching full capacity in some areas and infrastructure constraints are emerging. Addressing these constraints is a key priority for all governments and COAG agreed that a more nationally-coordinated approach is critical to enhance Australia's future economic performance and raise national productivity.

Objective: To facilitate and improve the coordination of infrastructure planning and investment across the nation, across governments and the private sector and identify and remove blockages to productive investment in infrastructure.

COAG agreed:

- the forward work program for Infrastructure Australia, namely:-
 - to undertake the National Infrastructure Audit by the end of 2008,
 - to develop an Infrastructure Priority List by March 2009, and
 - to prepare best-practice guidelines for Public Private Partnerships for consideration by COAG by October 2008;

- the scope and the terms of reference of the Audit, namely:-
 - to examine nationally significant infrastructure and infrastructure networks including, but not limited to, the transport, water, energy and communications sectors which materially impact on productivity growth,
 - to determine the adequacy, capacity and condition of nationally-significant infrastructure taking into account forecast growth, and
 - to identify any gaps, deficiencies, impediments and bottlenecks in the identified sectors as measured against expected future demand; and

- to develop a further infrastructure reform agenda for COAG consideration in October 2008.

COAG REFORM COUNCIL (CRC) PROGRESS REPORT ON EXISTING COMPETITION AND REGULATION REFORMS

COAG welcomed and considered the CRC's first report on progress being made in the implementation of previously agreed competition and regulation reforms under the National Reform Agenda (available on www.coag.gov.au).

COAG agreed the recommendations of the CRC's report:

- the Business Regulation and Competition Working Group (BRCWG):-
 - to assess the most efficient approach to the legislative drafting task for new national arrangements across jurisdictions, including through consultation with the Council of Parliamentary Counsel,
 - to develop options to assist those jurisdictions with limited drafting resources to meet their current commitments and obligations, and
 - to consider legislative implications as part of any proposals for new commitments;
- the importance of continuing and hastening the existing work program aimed at enhancing the efficiency, productivity and sustainability of road and rail freight infrastructure (including assessment of alternative models of road pricing such as mass-distance location pricing);
- COAG set a revised timetable for completing the passage of the necessary legislation and the introduction of a nationally-consistent rail safety regulatory framework – the BRCWG implementation plan agreed by COAG on 26 March 2008 sets a new timetable for mainland jurisdictions of end 2008;
- the BRCWG consider how best to progress the national system of rail access;
- that all jurisdictions should complete and publish their port reviews as soon as possible, and act on the findings by the end of 2008;
- the importance of the progressive national roll out of smart meters as previously agreed by COAG and that it should continue in accordance with agreed timeframes;
- the good progress made in establishing the Australian Energy Market Operator and new transmission planner and requested that the Ministerial Council on Energy resolve outstanding matters as soon as possible;
- on trade measurement, the Commonwealth Government give high priority to the drafting and passage of the necessary legislation and associated regulations and particular attention is paid by all parties to the staffing and equipment requirements of the new national trade measurement entity; and
- the BRCWG and the Housing Working Group to consider further the impact of local government interventions, including in relation to building regulation and development assessments, on the cost of housing and advise COAG of further measures that might be taken to address this situation.

COAG noted the CRC's three overarching conclusions:

- that the benefits to be gained from ongoing regulatory and competition reform are substantial and attainable;
- that the presence of formal implementation monitoring progress does enhance the reform agenda; and
- that the limited resources available to all jurisdictions is one of the most significant factors in the failure to meet a high proportion of timetables laid down by COAG.

COAG agreed to the CRC's recommendation that options be developed to assist those jurisdictions with limited legislative drafting resources to meet their current commitments and obligations.

HOUSING WORKING GROUP

COAG identified the decline in housing affordability as a pressing issue for Australians and recognised that improving affordability is a critical element in addressing financial stress and disadvantage, including for Indigenous Australians. Importantly, COAG also recognised that innovative policy solutions were needed to support improvements in housing affordability. COAG agreed to a strategy aimed at addressing housing affordability that includes: improving housing supply through release of surplus government land for housing development; providing incentives to construct affordable rental housing; lowering the burden of infrastructure and regulatory costs built into the purchase price of a new home; improving the evidence base for housing policy and program development; and supporting the most needy in society through the joint Commonwealth-State investment in 600 houses and units for homeless people.

Objective: To improve housing affordability for home buyers, ease rental stress for low to moderate income households and halve the turn away rate for the homeless.

COAG agreed:

- to implement five key housing initiatives:-
 - the Housing Affordability Fund to streamline development approval processes and reduce infrastructure charges and regulatory costs,
 - the National Rental Affordability Scheme to increase the supply of affordable rental housing, reduce rental costs for low and moderate income households, and encourage large scale investment and innovative delivery of affordable housing,
 - the Land Audit to facilitate improved housing supply through the identification of surplus Commonwealth, State and Territory land for possible release for housing development (excluding operating Defence bases),
 - the National Housing Supply Council to provide research, forecasts and advice to the Commonwealth Government and COAG on issues relating to the adequacy of housing and land supply to meet future needs, and
 - A Place to Call Home to deliver 600 new dwellings for homeless people;
- to the distribution of \$150 million to deliver new homes for homeless people. These funds will be distributed with reference to the number of homeless people in each jurisdiction, with a guarantee for smaller jurisdictions that no State or Territory will receive less than \$1 million per annum. There will be a joint effort from the Commonwealth and the States and Territories to expand services for the homeless:-
 - all jurisdictions agreed that clients will include Indigenous clients in at least the same proportion as they are represented in the homeless population;
- to request the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council to support fully initiatives under the Housing Affordability Fund and improvements to

development assessment systems and processes in order to reduce regulatory and infrastructure costs built into house prices; and

- to develop a new National Affordable Housing Agreement.

COAG welcomed the decision of the Commonwealth to provide \$30 million from the Housing Affordability Fund for the roll out of electronic Development Applications in local government with a priority focus on high growth areas. COAG requested the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council to make the implementation of this work a priority.

WORKING GROUP ON INDIGENOUS REFORM

Closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage is a key priority for all Australian Governments. Achieving success will require careful consideration by all COAG Working Groups in conjunction with the Working Group and close cooperation across all levels of government.

Objective:

To close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage and in particular to:

- close the life expectancy gap within a generation;
- halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade; and
- halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements within a decade in a partnership between all levels of government and with Indigenous communities.

The pathway to closing the gap is inextricably linked to economic development and improved education outcomes.

COAG:

- **agreed** to a further three high-level targets to help close the gap:-
 - halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade,
 - all four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years, and
 - at least halve the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020;
- **approved** as a basis for further work the Indigenous specific elements contained in 23 of the 26 implementation plans prepared by other COAG working groups, ensuring that the implementation of Commonwealth election commitments in health, education and housing in particular address Indigenous disadvantage where appropriate. This included the following specific targets:-
 - at least 48,000 dental services for Indigenous people over four years under the Commonwealth Dental Health Program, and
 - universal access to early learning for all four year olds by 2013 including Indigenous children and all Indigenous four year olds in remote Indigenous communities have access to a quality early childhood education program;
- **agreed** that all COAG Working Groups develop policy and program responses to ensure achievement of the targets in line with a number of building blocks and in conjunction with the Working Group; and
- **agreed** the Working Group bring forward sustainable reform proposals on Indigenous Early Childhood Development to the COAG meeting in July 2008. The Working Group will also bring forward proposals no later than the COAG meeting in October 2008 on basic protective security from violence for

Indigenous parents and children, remote service delivery and workforce planning, and economic participation and active welfare.