

Australia's  
National Human Rights  
Action Plan

2012

## National Human Rights Action Plan 2012

	Priority area	Action	Lead agency/ jurisdiction	Performance indicator/ timeline
25	<b>Australia's Human Rights Framework<sup>8</sup></b>	<p>The Australian Government will prioritise human rights education by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing grants to NGOs to develop and deliver community education and engagement programs to promote a greater understanding of human rights</li> <li>• investing \$3.8 million in an education and training package for the Australian Government public sector, including developing guidance materials for public sector policy development and implementation of government programs</li> <li>• providing \$6.6 million over four years to the Australian Human Rights Commission to expand its community education role on human rights and to provide information and support for human rights education programs, and</li> <li>• enhancing support for human rights education in primary and secondary schools by continuing to work with states and territories and the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority to include human rights and principles across the Australian curriculum, ensuring that human rights forms a part of student learning.</li> </ul>	AGD, DEEWR, DIAC	Funding expended by 2013–14.
26		<p>The Australian Parliament will continue to play a role in the implementation of the <i>Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011 (Cth)</i> (commenced on 4 January 2012) which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establishes a Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights which will provide greater scrutiny of legislation for compliance with Australia's international human rights obligations under the seven core United Nations human rights treaties to which Australia is a party, and</li> <li>• requires all new Bills and disallowable legislative instruments to be accompanied by a statement assessing its compatibility with the rights in the seven core United Nations human rights treaties to which Australia is a party.</li> </ul> <p>In accordance with the <i>Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) (Consequential Provisions) Act 2011 (Cth)</i>, the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission has been appointed as a permanent member of the Administrative Review Council.</p>	AGD	<p>The Australian Government will consider the effectiveness of the new Committee's powers, the content and function of Statements of Compatibility and the definition of 'human rights' as part of the 2013–14 review of Australia's Human Rights Framework.</p> <p>AGD will respond to any relevant Committee recommendations in a timely way.</p>

<sup>8</sup> UPR Rec 49 (Cambodia): A; UPR Rec 21 (Timor-Leste): PA; UPR Rec 30 (Azerbaijan): A; UPR Rec 42–45 (United Kingdom, India): A & PA; UPR Rec 57 (Thailand): A; UPR Rec 58 (Japan): A; UPR Rec 96 (United States): A; UPR Rec 143 (Poland): A