



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MC17-067364

Ms Elizabeth Stone
seo@pbvm.org.au
Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes
Social Justice Committee
PO Box 1031
ASHFIELD NSW 1800

Dear Ms Stone

Thank you for your email dated 9 August 2017 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, supporting the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* and the recommendations of the Referendum Council's Final Report. I have been asked to reply on the Prime Minister's behalf.

The Government is committed to the meaningful recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Recognition would acknowledge our shared history and the value we place on our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage. This commitment is shared by the Leader of the Opposition.

It is important that the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition take the time to carefully consider the Referendum Council's advice. Both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have stated that any proposal for constitutional change must reflect the wishes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, be achievable and have near universal support to progress to a referendum.

I thank you for your ongoing interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Kickett', written over a white background.

Jay Kickett
A/g Senior Adviser
Constitutional Recognition Taskforce
Indigenous Employment and Recognition Division

/ September 2017



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