

MEDIA RELEASE



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Another step forward but keep end goal in sight

ANTaR welcomes today's commitment to passage of an Act of Recognition as a step on the road to Constitutional Recognition of Australia's First Peoples, but insists that the end goal must remain firmly in sight.

"Today's announcement provides some welcome clarity around the timing of the referendum and an opportunity for all parties to re-affirm their commitment to Constitutional Recognition of Australia's First Peoples through passage of an Act of Recognition," said Jacqueline Phillips, National Director.

"The Act of Recognition must be seen as the next step on the road to Referendum, with a clear focus on the end goal."

"We welcome the Labor Government's re-commitment to meaningful Constitutional reform that reflects the hopes and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

"We await further detail about the proposed Act of Recognition, but hope that it reflects all elements of the Expert Panel's package, including the inclusion of a prohibition on racial discrimination. The fundamental principle of racial equality should be clearly reflected in our nation's highest law."

"Campaign momentum is building but securing majority support for change will take time. The lessons of past referenda tell us not to rush the process, but to continue to grow momentum and engage people across the community to maximise the chances of success."

ANTaR has been working with our campaign partners to build support for change. In the next few months, the inaugural Rock for Recognition concert series will be touring three states, headlined by Dan Sultan, to raise awareness about Constitutional Recognition.

For more information, go to: www.antar.org.au or www.dansultan.com

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