

**AUSTRALIA'S FIFTH REPORT UNDER
THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (ICESCR)
2010-2014**

**Appendix 2
Non-Government Organisation Submissions**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	2
<u>I. INTRODUCTION</u>	3
Purpose of this Appendix	3
<u>II. NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION SUBMISSIONS</u>	4
Consultation with Non-Government Organisations	4
Non-Government Organisation Participants	4
Non-Government Organisation Submissions	4

I. INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this Appendix

1. The Australian Government is pleased to present this Appendix to Australia's fifth report under articles 16 and 17 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).
2. This Appendix describes the Australian Government's consultation process with non-government organisations (NGOs) in the preparation of Australia's fifth report under ICESCR, and lists the submissions received from NGOs.

II. NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION SUBMISSIONS

Consultation with Non-Government Organisations

3. The Australian Government values the important role that civil society and non-government organisations play in the United Nations human rights system; particularly in ensuring transparency and accountability in human rights treaty body reporting.
4. In August and December 2014 civil society was consulted on the ideal format for consultation in Australia's fifth report under ICESCR and this informed the Government's consultation processes; led by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).
5. In February 2015 over eighty organisations were invited to express interest in reviewing the draft ICESCR report. This included a number of peak bodies, and organisations which represent a wide range of disadvantaged groups including indigenous organisations, disability organisations and refugee advocacy groups.
6. DFAT held a half-day roundtable discussion on the draft ICESCR report in Canberra on 8 May 2015. DFAT also made the draft report available for consideration by NGOs and accepted written submissions for over six weeks, from 8 April to 25 May 2015.
7. Input from NGOs and civil society was then consolidated and shared across the federal, state and territory governments, and was integral to the finalisation of the report.

Non-Government Organisation Participants

7. The following list of organisations participated in the roundtable discussion on the ICESCR report in Canberra on 8 May 2015:

Australian Council for Human Rights Education	Human Rights Law Centre
Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)	Law Council of Australia
Australian Human Rights Commission	National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC)
Amnesty International	Salvation Army - The Freedom Partnership to End Modern Slavery
Civil Liberties Australia	Slavery Links Australia
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA)	University of New South Wales, Kingsford Legal Centre

Non-Government Organisation Submissions

8. The following list of organisations made written submissions on the draft ICESCR report in between May and July 2015:

Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)	Law Council of Australia
Australian Human Rights Commission	Refugee Council of Australia
Amnesty International	Salvation Army - The Freedom Partnership to End Modern Slavery
Civil Liberties Australia	University of New South Wales, Kingsford Legal Centre
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA)	UN Youth Australia Ltd.