



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia report:
The engagement of traditional owners in the economic development
of northern Australia

APRIL 2026

OVERVIEW

On 18 October 2018 and 1 August 2019, the Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia wrote to the then Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan seeking endorsement to conduct an Inquiry into the Opportunities and Challenges of the Engagement of Traditional Owners in the Economic Development of Northern Australia.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Government notes the recommendations. Given the passage of time since this report was tabled, the Government provides the following update:

On 2 August 2025, the Prime Minister announced \$75 million in additional funding to support native title holders. This will help build PBC capacity and ensure native title holders are well placed to support, engage in and benefit from a range of opportunities.