

# Northern Australia Indigenous Development Accord



Australian Government









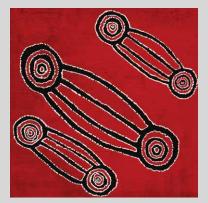
#### **Our Artworks**



Artist: Kamahi Djordon King

Kamahi Djordon King (Jungala) Gurindji man from KATHERINE NT.

Kamahi started painting at an early age but never classified himself as an artist until he sold his first piece when he was 18. Mainly a painter in the visual arts realm Kamahi started to get briefly into sculpture and started digital work which won him the CAL (Copyright Artist Licence) for best work on paper in the Victorian Indigenous Arts Prize in 2011 for his piece *Attack of the fifty foot black gin.* Kamahi has exibited solo at the Koorie Heritage trust, Mike Sill gallery and most recent Wyndham gallery in Victoria where he also exhibited his camp dogs.



Title: The Idea

This painting depicts two camps or houses meeting and sharing ideas.



Title: The Journey

This is going into communities to implement the idea getting permission to initiate plan.



Artist: Naseli Tamwoy

Badu Island artist Naseli Tamwoy's works focus on cultural traditions and practices. Naseli's paintings, linocut prints and 3D works are inspired by cultural traditions embedded in him through his father's knowledge and teachings. His identity and heritage comes from the Maluiligal people of Badu Island on his father's side.

Naseli's artworks tell of his strong connection with cultural traditions and practises and depict his style of Torres Strait linocut designs. Many of his works capture sea life and food sources through hunting practices shown in many of his linocut prints.

"Words cannot define my emotions of being away from country but my art keeps me connected to my stories, family and Island" – Naseli Tamwoy.



Lagaw Dhanalayg (Ailan Life)

The design is based around the natural elements land, sea & sky. Each animal, designs, coconuts has a special link to it and our people of the region.



### Intergovernmental Agreement – Northern Australia Indigenous Development Accord

### Recitals

- This Intergovernmental Agreement Northern Australia Indigenous Development Accord ("the Accord") has been developed to recognise the work of the Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) to the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development (MFND) in progressing Indigenous economic development in northern Australia. This Accord has been developed in consultation with the IRG.
- 2. The Accord provides a framework for the Parties to work together and individually to advance Indigenous economic development in northern Australia. The Implementation Plan for the recommendations of the IRG, set out at Schedule A, guides the actions that the Commonwealth and the States and Territory will take to achieve this.
- **3.** The Parties recognise that Indigenous participation in the economy is essential to fully realise the development of northern Australia. The IRG has challenged governments to do more with existing resources; go beyond business as usual to facilitate Indigenous economic development; and improve collaboration across government and with Indigenous people. This Accord provides a framework to address this challenge.
- 4. The Parties recognise that they and Indigenous community stakeholders have a mutual interest in maximising the economic opportunity and contribution of northern Australian Indigenous businesses, individuals and communities in the northern development agenda. The IRG and the Parties recognise that better outcomes will be achieved by working together through a genuine and collaborative partnership-based approach, which involves engagement with a broad range of Indigenous stakeholders across the north.
- **5.** The Accord emphasises the Parties' commitment to ensuring Indigenous Australians are central to the northern Australia development agenda. Governments respect the work of the IRG to develop practical policies that will address barriers to economic participation across a range of circumstances. Governments recognise the wide spectrum of Indigenous employment and enterprise capabilities and aspirations in the north.
- **6.** Economic development is a productive path to long-term community wellbeing, and contributes to nation building. Parties support the IRG's aspiration for Indigenous self-determination and economic independence through engagement in markets and the use of private capital.
- 7. The Parties recognise the need for more focused engagement between Indigenous interests across the north, governments, the private sector and Australia's research and development communities.
- **8.** The Parties also recognise the benefits that will accrue from mainstreaming the consideration of Indigenous economic development in government policy and program development, particularly in relation to the northern development agenda.
- **9.** Actions undertaken will be consistent with and complement Closing the Gap commitments.

## Part 1 Operative Provisions

#### **Parties**

10. This Accord is between the Commonwealth of Australia (the "Commonwealth") and the State of Queensland, the State of Western Australia and the Northern Territory of Australia (collectively, the "Parties").

#### Term of the agreement

11. This Accord will commence as soon as it is signed by the Commonwealth and any other Party, and will not expire unless determined in writing by the Parties or there are no remaining state or territory Parties to the Accord or the Commonwealth is no longer a Party to the Accord.

#### Enforceability

**12.** The Parties do not intend any of the provisions of this Accord to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to this Accord.

#### **Definitions**

- **13.** Unless otherwise specified, the following terms and definitions are used throughout this Accord:
- a) Northern Australia: broadly defined as all of the Northern Territory and areas of Western Australia and Queensland above the Tropic of Capricorn.
- b) Indigenous interests: includes but is not restricted to native title holders, Prescribed Bodies Corporates, other bodies which represent or advocate for Indigenous peoples and governance structures or existing development plans.

## Part 2 Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs

#### **Objectives**

- **14.** Through the implementation of this Accord, the Parties, with the support and collaboration of Indigenous stakeholders, aim to:
- a) Unlock and maximise the economic potential of Indigenous businesses, individuals and communities in northern Australia; and
- b) Mainstream the consideration of Indigenous interests in the development and delivery of government policy and programs.



#### **Outcomes**

- **15.** The Parties, with the input and collaboration of Indigenous stakeholders, agree to undertake decisive actions that contribute to:
- a) Creating jobs, fostering labour participation, entrepreneurship and business acumen for Indigenous Australians;
- b) Establishing knowledge management systems and producing research and development to support Indigenous commercial end-users;
- c) Attracting infrastructure investment to support Indigenous economic development;
- d) Facilitating access to capital and domestic and international markets for Indigenous businesses;
- e) Activating the economic value of land, water, sea and cultural resource rights; and
- f) Creating institutional arrangements that work to activate, accelerate and optimise Indigenous economic development across northern Australia.

#### Outputs

**16.** The objectives and outcomes of this Accord will be achieved through delivering the commitments outlined in the joint implementation plan at Schedule A.

## **Part 3** Roles and Responsibilities

17. To realise the objectives and commitments in this Accord, each Party has specific roles and responsibilities, as outlined below and in Schedule A to this Accord.

#### **Role of the Commonwealth**

- **18.** The Commonwealth agrees to be accountable for:
- a) Implementing joint Schedule A;
- b) Coordinating the amendment of joint Schedule A; and
- c) Coordinating the compilation of summary reporting materials.

#### **Role of the States and Territory**

**19.** The States and Territory agree to be accountable for implementing joint Schedule A.

## Part 4 Implementation Arrangements

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#### Northern Australia Strategic Partnership

- **20.** The Northern Australia Strategic Partnership (NASP) comprising the Prime Minister and the Premiers of Queensland and Western Australia and the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory provides high-level leadership on the development of northern Australia.
- **21.** Recognising the need for focused determination from all governments, the NASP members will ensure that implementation of this Accord is a whole-of-government effort and is coordinated across portfolios with the support of First Ministers' departments.

#### **Ministerial Forum on Northern Development**

**22.** The MFND will be responsible for the negotiation and update of the Implementation Plan at Schedule A to this Accord, including out-of-session if required. It can agree additional schedules to be added to this Accord.

#### Reporting

- 23. The Parties will provide detailed reports to the MFND ahead of each meeting, against the performance indicators identified at Schedule A to this Accord. Parties may report on Individual actions to address the outcomes identified by the IRG and reflected in clause 15.
- **24.** The MFND will report annually to the NASP against the objectives in clause 14 of this Accord.
- **25.** The annual reports provided under clause 24 will be published by the Commonwealth.

## Part 5 Financial Arrangements

- **26.** Parties agree they will be responsible for their own costs in implementing this Accord.
- **27.** Parties recognise that there may be joint funding arrangements established for future activities and agree that additional schedules may be added to this Accord to detail such funding arrangements.



## **Part 6** Governance Arrangements

#### **Dispute resolution**

- **28.** Any Party may give notice to other Parties of a dispute under this Accord.
- **29.** Officials of relevant Parties will attempt to resolve any dispute in the first instance.
- **30.** If a dispute is unable to be resolved by officials, it may be escalated to the relevant Ministers and if necessary, the MFND.

#### Withdrawal and Termination of the Accord

**31.** A Party to the Accord may withdraw from the Accord at any time by notifying all other Parties in writing.

#### Variation of the Accord

- **32.** The Accord may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by all Parties.
- **33.** Multilateral schedules may be added or amended at any time by agreement in writing by all Parties.
- **34.** Bilateral schedules or multilateral schedules to this Accord that have no impact on other Parties may be agreed and amended at any time by agreement in writing between the relevant Parties.

#### Delegations

**35.** The Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers with representative responsibility for the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development (MFND) are authorised to agree and amend schedules to the Accord. It is expected that Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers with responsibility for Indigenous affairs will be engaged as part of the decision making process.

#### **Review of the Accord**

**36.** The Accord will be reviewed every three years to assess progress against the agreed objectives, and determine whether more ambitious objectives can be set. Reviews are to be finalised and published by 30 June of the third year, with the first review to be completed by 30 June 2022.

### The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Accord as follows:

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by

The Honourable Scott Morrison MP Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia

Date 10 Dec 2019

**Signed** for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

The Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP Premier of the State of Queensland

Date 20 Feb 2020

**Signed** for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by

**The Honourable Mark McGowan MLA** Premier of the State of Western Australia

Date 11 Dec 2019

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

The Honourable Michael Gunner MLA Chief Minister of the Northern Territory of Australia

Date 12 Dec 2019

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## Schedule A Implementation Plan

#### Intergovernmental Agreement – Northern Australia Indigenous Development Accord

#### **Implementation Milestones**

An implementation plan to deliver the IRG's recommendations has been jointly developed by the Commonwealth and states and territory. This is a living document and will continue to evolve. It outlines what governments are already doing that is directly relevant to addressing the recommendations; new actions underway to address the recommendations; and proposed areas for further action.

The Ministerial Forum endorsed the first steps identified below. No Party is required to undertake any actions beyond these first steps unless agreed by the Ministerial Forum and/ or the relevant responsible Ministers. Any Party may undertake individual actions at any time to address the outcomes identified by the IRG and reflected in clause 15.

**A1** The Parties have agreed to meet the following joint implementation milestones. Additional future milestones will be agreed by the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development.

Outcome	Outputs	Performance indicator	Responsibility
<ol> <li>Creating jobs, foster</li> <li>Rangers fee-for-se</li> </ol>	ring labour participation, e rvice	ntrepreneurship and busin	ess acumen
Expanded fee-for- service opportunities for Indigenous ranger groups across the north	Parties engage constructively through a working group	Increased opportunities for Indigenous ranger groups to deliver services for governments and the private and research sector for a fee, with at least one new fee- for-service opportunity realised in each jurisdiction by June 2020	All Parties
	Each Party identifies concrete, immediate or near-term opportunities for ranger fee-for- service delivery		
	Respective governments take steps to realise identified opportunities		
	Forum governments work collectively to support capability development for ranger groups		

#### **Joint Activities**

Outcome	Outputs	Performance indicator	Responsibility			
<ul><li>2. Access to capital and international markets</li><li>• Northern Hub System</li></ul>						
Ministerial Forum has a proposal for developing a Northern Australia Indigenous Enterprise and Employment Hub System	Commonwealth scopes the IRG's recommendation for a Northern Hub System, in collaboration with jurisdictions	Northern Hub System considered, with next steps agreed by Ministers at the fourth meeting of the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development (MFND4)	Commonwealth led, in consultation with states and territory			
	Forum governments - led by the Commonwealth - develop a shared advice paper for consideration					

#### 3. Infrastructure to support Indigenous economic development

and decision by the Ministerial Forum

#### • Infrastructure planning and investment

Ministerial Forum to	Each party scopes funding	Avenues to source	All Parties
understand options	options for feasibility	funding for feasibility	
for funding for	studies to leverage	studies identified, with	
feasibility studies	infrastructure investment	next steps agreed by	
	for Indigenous benefit	Ministers at MFND4	

## 4. Activate the economic value of land, water, sea and cultural resource rights Land-use planning and water reforms

Ministerial Forum has proposal/s to consider for progressing landuse planning and water reforms for Indigenous benefit Forum governments engage constructively through a working group

Forum governments develop an advice paper examining ways to progress land-use planning and water reforms to address IRG recommendations in this area, for decision by the Ministerial Forum Avenues to progress land-use planning and water reforms identified, with next steps agreed by Ministers at MFND4 **All Parties** 

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Outcome	Outputs	Performance indicator	Responsibility
	ements that work to activate nic development across north ation Areas		2
Implementation efforts are focused and realise the intersecting benefits from the IRG's recommendations	Each state or territory identifies a process for selecting Regional Collaboration Area sites in their jurisdictions. Regional collaboration areas are intended to be places where governments, the private sector and Indigenous interests act in partnership to focus on, and accelerate, Indigenous economic participation.	The process for identifying Regional Collaboration Areas, including consultation with local communities and linkages with other regional and place-based initiatives, is considered by Ministers at MFND4, with the intent that Regional Collaboration Areas are identified and implementation approaches agreed by Ministers at MFND5.	All Parties
	Forum governments agree trial sites		
	Each state or territory works with the Commonwealth to scope collaboration areas and agree an implementation and engagement plan		

#### Research Roadmap and Plan

Ministerial Forum has a proposal for developing a Northern Australian Indigenous Commercial Research Roadmap and Research Plan Commonwealth leads development of the scoping for a roadmap, for consideration by jurisdictions

Commonwealth develops an advice paper for consideration and decision by the Ministerial Forum Indigenous Commercial Research Plan considered, with next steps agreed by Ministers at MFND5 Commonwealth led, in consultation with the states and territory

