

Indigenous Knowledge Forum

Newsletter No. 1 October 2012



This is the first newsletter following up on the Forum which took place at UTS on 1-3 August 2012. Updating of the website is continuing with presentations from the Forum and other resources being added. The email database has been compiled, a report summarising the Forum has been prepared and is circulated with this newsletter.

Work is in progress to compile papers received from Forum presenters for journal publication. Discussions have also commenced regarding a possible second forum in India in the second half of 2013.

At the conclusion of the Forum participants agreed to establish working parties to consult with Indigenous people in regard to developing a legal instrument for recognition of rights in Indigenous knowledge in Australia. Several people have already expressed interest in participating in those working parties.

The Forum Organising Committee has suggested that an initial planning meeting should be convened of Forum participants interested in the consultation and drafting processes.

A project to consult on, and develop new legislation for protection of Indigenous knowledge, would ideally include a study of comparative developments in other jurisdictions - including regional and national. This information could form the basis for a consultation discussion paper.

A critical aspect to the planning phase is the need to secure necessary funding to enable a consultation and drafting process to take place.

We again call for expressions of interest for the working parties on planning, drafting and consultation. Participants may wish to contribute to more than one working party. We will include participants who have already expressed interest in the drafting and consultation working parties. Expressions of interest can be emailed to **Ann Kurts** at Ann.Kurts@uts.edu.au.

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