



**Australian Government**  
**Productivity Commission**

Catalogue of COAG  
Reforms and Initiatives

Impacts and Benefits of  
COAG Reforms:  
Reporting Framework  
*Annex to the Research Report*

December 2010

Note: This annex is referred  
to in the chapters but is not  
reproduced in the printed report.

## © Commonwealth of Australia 2010

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, the work may be reproduced in whole or in part for study or training purposes, subject to the inclusion of an acknowledgment of the source. Reproduction for commercial use or sale requires prior written permission from the Commonwealth. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to the Commonwealth Copyright Administration, Attorney-General's Department, National Circuit, Canberra ACT 2600 or posted at [www.ag.gov.au/cca](http://www.ag.gov.au/cca).

*This publication is available in hard copy or PDF format from the Productivity Commission website at [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au). If you require part or all of this publication in a different format, please contact Media and Publications (see below).*

### **Publications Inquiries:**

Media and Publications  
Productivity Commission  
Locked Bag 2 Collins Street East  
Melbourne VIC 8003

Tel: (03) 9653 2244  
Fax: (03) 9653 2303  
Email: [maps@pc.gov.au](mailto:maps@pc.gov.au)

### **General Inquiries:**

Tel: (03) 9653 2100 or (02) 6240 3200

### **An appropriate citation for this paper is:**

Productivity Commission 2010, 'Catalogue of COAG Reforms and Initiatives', Annex to *Impacts and Benefits of COAG Reforms: Reporting Framework*, Research Report, Canberra, December.

#### ***The Productivity Commission***

The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government's independent research and advisory body on a range of economic, social and environmental issues affecting the welfare of Australians. Its role, expressed most simply, is to help governments make better policies, in the long term interest of the Australian community.

The Commission's independence is underpinned by an Act of Parliament. Its processes and outputs are open to public scrutiny and are driven by concern for the wellbeing of the community as a whole.

Further information on the Productivity Commission can be obtained from the Commission's website ([www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au)) or by contacting Media and Publications on (03) 9653 2244 or email: [maps@pc.gov.au](mailto:maps@pc.gov.au)

---

# Contents

## **PART A Overview of the reforms by broad reform stream**

Competition and regulation stream	1
Business regulation and competition	3
Infrastructure	8
Human capital stream	11
Education and training	12
Health, ageing and disability	19
Housing	25
Indigenous reform (closing the Gap)	28
Environment stream	31
Water	32
Climate change	33
Miscellaneous other	35
National security, community safety and emergency management	35
Miscellaneous	36

## **PART B Reform Agreements and Initiatives**

Overarching Reform	39
Competition and Regulation Stream	39
Business regulation and competition	39
Infrastructure	44
Human Capital Stream	48
Education and training	48
Environment Stream	64
Miscellaneous Other	68
Other COAG Initiatives not Included	71

<b>References</b>	<b>75</b>
-------------------	-----------

---

**Box**

A.1 Implementation of priority areas for deregulation	9
---	---

**Tables**

A.1 National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy: An overview	5
A.2 National Education Agreement: An overview	14
A.3 National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development: An overview	17
A.4 National Healthcare Agreement: An overview	20
A.5 National Disability Agreement: An overview	24
A.6 National Affordable Housing Agreement: An overview	26
A.7 National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap): An overview	30
A.8 Overarching COAG reform agreement	39
A.9 COAG Business regulation and competition reform agreements and initiatives	39
A.10 COAG Infrastructure reform agreements and initiatives	44
A.11 COAG Education and training reform agreements and initiatives	48
A.12 COAG Health, ageing and disability reform agreements and initiatives	53
A.13 COAG Housing reform agreements and initiatives	60
A.14 COAG Indigenous reform agreements and initiatives	62
A.15 COAG Water reform agreements and initiatives	64
A.16 COAG Climate change reform agreements and initiatives	67
A.17 COAG National security, community safety and emergency management reform agreements and initiatives	68
A.18 Miscellaneous COAG reform agreements	70
A.19 Other COAG initiatives not included	71

## OVERVIEW OF THE REFORMS BY BROAD REFORM STREAM



---

This annex supports the Commission report *Impacts and Benefits of COAG Reforms: Reporting Framework*.

As discussed in chapter 2 of that report, the COAG reforms consist of two distinct parts:

- changes to Commonwealth-State financial relations; and
- an extensive series of specific reforms.

The changes to Commonwealth-State financial relations overlay the COAG reform agenda and are discussed in section 2.3 of chapter 2.

This annex focuses on the specific agreements and other initiatives that make up the reform agenda. Section A.1 provides an overview of the agenda by broad reform area. Section A.2 provides a catalogue of the initiatives considered to make up the reform agenda. It is based on material drawn together from a variety of sources, most notably:

- COAG Communiqués (COAG 2008b, 2008c, 2008i, 2008m, 2009h, 2009r, 2009y, 2009am, 2010f);
- COAG and Ministerial Council for Federal Financial Relations websites and the documents contained therein;<sup>1</sup> and
- the reports of the COAG Reform Council (CRC 2009a, 2009b, 2009c, 2010a, 2010b, 2010c, 2010d, 2010e, 2010f, 2010g, 2010h, 2010i, 2010j).

The basic structure of the COAG reform agenda is outlined in the 26 March 2008 communiqué (COAG 2008b). Subsequent COAG meetings have built on this basic structure, as COAG has agreed to a range of new initiatives, many of which support or complement the formal agreements that make up the core of the agenda. The core of the reform agenda consists of:

- the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations* (COAG 2008n);

---

<sup>1</sup> The COAG website is [www.coag.gov.au](http://www.coag.gov.au) and the Ministerial Council for Federal Financial Relations website is [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au).

- 
- six National Agreements; and
  - 24 National Partnerships to be monitored by the COAG Reform Council.<sup>2</sup>

The *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations* also covers numerous other, mostly smaller, National Partnerships that could contribute to the achievement of COAG reform objectives and goals.

The structure and purpose of the different types of agreement are outlined in chapter 2.

The evolving nature of the reform agenda means that any listing of matters considered by COAG will also evolve. In determining which of the matters considered by COAG could encompass reform agreements and initiatives, the Commission has been guided by whether an initiative:

- falls under the auspices of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations*;
- was considered by COAG on or after the reform agenda was initially outlined in March 2008;
- has given rise to a publicly available formal agreement to indicate endorsement by COAG (although this may not necessarily result in a signed formal agreement); and
- makes reference to, supports or complements any of the signed formal agreements identified.

In ascertaining the coverage of the reform agenda, a number of COAG agreements and initiatives were identified that did not meet these criteria and, as a result, have not been viewed as forming part of the reform agenda. These are listed in section A.3.

In listing and cataloguing measures according to the nature of the agreement and reform theme, the Commission has relied on published information about the measure. In particular, where the description indicates that it span a number of subject matter areas, the measure has been classified to one area on the basis of published information.

The COAG reform agreements and initiatives as catalogued comprise around 325 documents, made up of six National Agreements, 51 National Partnerships,

---

<sup>2</sup> These National Agreements and National Partnerships to be monitored by the COAG Reform Council are denoted in this annex by the symbol <sup>†</sup>.



---

230 Implementation Plans and 27 intergovernmental agreements and other initiatives.

These reform agreements and initiatives are broad and wide ranging. Broadly, they can be combined into three reform streams and a miscellaneous group of ‘other’ matters:

- a competition and regulation stream (which can be broken down into: business regulation and competition; and infrastructure);
- a human capital stream (which can be broken down into: education and training; health, ageing and disability; housing; and Indigenous reform);
- an environment stream (which can be broken down into: water; and climate change).

In addition, COAG has considered other reform matters including in the areas of: national security, community safety and emergency management.

These streams are discussed in turn.

## **Competition and regulation stream**

The competition and regulation stream aims to enhance regulation and competition and boost the provision of critical infrastructure.

Although there is some overlap, especially in the area of transport, the competition and regulation stream broadly consists of two sub-streams:

- business regulation and competition; and
- infrastructure.

The reforms and initiatives that respectively make up these sub-streams are listed in tables A.9 (business regulation and competition) and A.10 (infrastructure) at the end of this annex.

There are no National Agreements in the competition and regulation stream.

### ***Business regulation and competition***

COAG’s business regulation reforms seek to make it easier for businesses and workers to operate across State borders and to improve productivity, while the competition reforms aim to improve the productivity and competitiveness of domestic markets by targeting barriers to competition and reducing distortions in

---

the allocation of resources in the economy. Notwithstanding these different objectives, many of the agreed competition reforms are also of a regulatory nature.

The business regulation reforms seek to reduce the costs that regulation imposes on businesses and consumers through:

- continuing to reduce the level of unnecessary regulation and inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions; and
- improving the processes for making new and reviewing existing regulations.

COAG agreed to 27 priority areas for deregulation to reduce inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions. The regulatory reforms in these priority areas involve:

- developing national regulatory systems (for example, trade licensing, registration of business names and the registration and accreditation for the health professions);
- establishing nationally uniform occupational health and safety systems;
- establishing nationally consistent systems (for example, payroll tax administration, mine safety and directors' liability); and
- improving and/or reducing the burden that regulation places on business (for example, development assessment processes, food regulation, oil and gas regulation and standard business reporting).

While most of these reforms primarily target regulations affecting business, some, such as those in the area of consumer policy, address, or have implications for, social considerations as well.

Along with eight priority areas for competition reform, these regulatory reforms formed the core of the commitment that COAG gave in July 2008 to develop 'a seamless national economy' (COAG 2008c). This, in turn, gave rise to the *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009p) (table A.1). This is the most important of the agreements in the competition and regulation stream. As its goal is to reduce inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions, the accompanying Revised Implementation Plans (COAG 2010p, 2010q, 2010r) that outline how its objectives, outputs and outcomes are to be achieved, are common across all jurisdictions (as opposed to many of those in the human capital stream, which vary by State).

Table A.1 **National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy: An overview**

	Deregulation	New regulation	Competition
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continuing to reduce the level of unnecessary regulation and inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improving processes for regulation making and review</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Delivering agreed COAG competition priorities</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Delivering agreed COAG deregulation priorities</li></ul>		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Creating a seamless national economy to reduce costs incurred by business in complying with unnecessary and inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Expanding Australia's productive capacity over the medium-term through competition reform</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enhancing Australia's longer-term growth by improving workforce participation and overall labour mobility</li></ul>		
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The 27 deregulation priorities agreed to by COAG in March 2008</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Regulatory reform that continues to develop and enhance existing processes for regulation making and review</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The eight competition reform priority areas agreed to by COAG in July 2008</li></ul>
Policy directions	<p><b>27 priority areas for deregulation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish <i>national</i> systems for:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consumer policy • Electronic conveyancing</li><li>Registration and accreditation for the health professions • Mortgage broking • Margin lending • Non-deposit lending institutions</li><li>Other consumer credit • Personal property securities • Registration of business names</li><li>Regulation of trustee corporations • Trade licensing • Trade measurement</li></ul></li><li>Establish nationally <i>uniform</i> OHS systems</li><li>Establish nationally <i>consistent</i> systems for:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Construction code • Directors' liability</li><li>Environmental assessment and approvals</li><li>Maritime safety regulation • Mine safety</li><li>Payroll tax harmonisation • Product safety</li><li>Rail safety</li></ul></li><li>Improve and/or reduce the regulatory burden of:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Development assessment processes</li><li>Chemicals and plastics regulation • Food regulation • Oil and gas regulation (upstream petroleum industry) • Standard business reporting • Wine labelling requirements</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>Eight priority areas for competition reform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rationalisation of occupational licences</li><li>Reforms to infrastructure access (changes to the national access regime)</li><li>Review of Australia's anti-dumping and countervailing system</li><li>Review of parallel importation of books</li><li>Transport policy (uniform regulation of heavy vehicles/safety laws, urban congestion)</li></ul> <p>Implement previously agreed reforms in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Energy</li><li>Transport</li><li>Infrastructure</li></ul>	

Source: COAG (2009p).

---

Under this National Partnership, the Australian Government is committed to providing \$550 million over five years to the States for implementing the agreed reform priorities. This funding consisted of \$100 million in facilitation payments in 2008-09, and, if the States meet the agreed milestones for implementing the deregulation priorities, reward payments of up to \$200 million in 2011-12 and \$250 million in 2012-13.

The priority areas for COAG deregulation have been extended to include: the legal profession, the not-for-profit sector, the private security industry, and retail tenancies (COAG 2008f, 2009au, 2009ae, 2009s).<sup>3</sup>

In addition to regulation reform in specific areas, COAG has also agreed to gatekeeper and review mechanisms to improve the processes for making new and reviewing existing regulations. These reforms build on commitments set out in the April 2007 Regulatory Reform Plan (COAG 2007). As a first step, in March 2008, COAG tasked the Business Regulation and Competition Working Group with reporting on:

... possible further improvements to both regulation making and review, including examining processes to ensure no net increase in the regulatory burden and common start dates for legislation. COAG also asked the Working Group to consider whether further reforms are needed to ensure jurisdictions have best-practice regulation and review processes in place by end 2008. (COAG 2008b, p. 18)

Up until mid 2010, the only milestone under the regulatory reform section of the *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy* involved completing outstanding reforms from COAG's April 2007 *Regulatory Reform Plan*. This Plan outlines regulatory reform actions for each State, including: strengthening the role of the Minister responsible for regulatory reform; enhancing current gatekeeping arrangements and impact assessment processes; and enhancing the effectiveness of the requirements for post-implementation review. As at 30 June 2009, the COAG Reform Council identified that Western Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory had not completed all of their outstanding actions (CRC 2009c).

The Regulatory Reform Implementation Plan has since been extended. The second milestone was for The Office of Best Practice Regulation to publish COAG Regulatory Impact Statements and their assessments on their online register. This

---

<sup>3</sup> Regulatory reform of the private security industry is similar to the regulatory reform of other occupations within the 'deregulation priorities' agreed to by COAG. If included with the deregulation priority areas labelled as such by COAG (the original 27 plus the legal profession, the not-for-profit sector, and retail tenancies), this would give 31 deregulation priority areas.

---

has been completed. The Business, Regulation and Competition Working Group is conducting a review of jurisdictions' Regulatory Impact Assessments against COAG's agreed criteria. The review will be used to develop actions to improve the assessments.

The regulation reforms also include three intergovernmental agreements:

- *Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions* (COAG 2008a), signed by COAG in March 2008, which seeks to create a single national registration and accreditation system for some health professions, including medical practitioners, nurses, pharmacists and dentists;
- *Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Occupational Health and Safety* (COAG 2008d), signed in July 2008, which seeks to harmonise OHS legislation through national uniformity of the OHS legislative framework complemented by a nationally consistent approach to compliance and enforcement policy;<sup>4</sup> and
- *Intergovernmental Agreement for Business Names Agreement* (COAG 2009aa), signed in July 2009, which seeks to establish a national system for business name registration to allow businesses to register once, regardless of how many jurisdictions those businesses operate in.

The regulation reforms have also given rise to a range of other agreements, including: *Food Regulation Agreement* (COAG 2008g), *National Credit Law Agreement* (COAG 2009an); and *Personal Property Securities Law Agreement* (COAG 2008j).

COAG's regulation reforms have also given rise to three transport-related National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a National Road Safety Council* (COAG 2009u), which seeks to establish and fund a new National Road Safety Council to identify opportunities to accelerate and expand the implementation of road safety measures (expires in May 2014);
- *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for Heavy Vehicle Regulatory Reform* (COAG 2010m), which seeks to regulate vehicles weighing over 4.5 tonnes to improve safety and reduce the regulatory burden for Australian transport companies (expires in June 2011); and

---

<sup>4</sup> This intergovernmental agreement gave rise to one of the 27 deregulation priority areas specified in the *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy* (COAG 2009p).

- 
- *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for National Rail Safety Regulatory Reform* (COAG 2010l), which seeks to improve safety and reduce the regulatory burden for the Australian rail industry (expires in June 2011).

COAG's regulatory reforms typically have much shorter implementation times than many of the other reforms that make up the reform agenda. Available evidence suggests that implementation of these reforms is progressing, with a number of deregulation priority areas completed or well advanced (box A.1).

COAG has also agreed to eight priority competition-related reform areas (table A.1). These include:

- commissioning two Productivity Commission reviews — one of Australia's anti-dumping and countervailing system (released 27 May 2010) and the other of parallel importation of books (released 14 July 2009);
- rationalisation of occupational licensing;
- changes to the national access regime for infrastructure; and
- implementing previously agreed reforms in the areas of energy, transport and infrastructure.

After the Productivity Commission Reviews, the government decided not to liberalise book imports and has not yet formally responded to the anti-dumping review.

### *Infrastructure*

At its March 2008 meeting, COAG agreed:

... that a more nationally-coordinated approach to further infrastructure reform is critical to enhance Australia's future economic performance and raise national productivity. (COAG 2008b, p. 7)

As a step towards this goal, COAG tasked Infrastructure Australia with:

- undertaking a National Infrastructure Audit (with an interim report to be completed by the end of 2008);
- developing an Infrastructure Priority List (for consideration by COAG in March 2009); and
- preparing best practice guidelines for the assessment of Public Private Partnerships (the best practice guidelines were endorsed by COAG in November 2008).

---

### Box A.1      **Implementation of priority areas for deregulation**

The COAG Reform Council independently assesses progress in implementing the *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy* (COAG 2008c). These assessments are done annually, with the next report due to be publicly released in early 2011.

In its 2008-09 report, the Council reported that governments had made 'good or generally satisfactory' progress against 2008-09 milestones across 18 of the 27 deregulation priorities (CRC 2009c). While not prejudging the findings of their report for 2009-10 due in 2011, available information suggests that substantial progress has been made on the implementation of at least 12 deregulation priority areas:

- a national system of trade measurement;
- a national registration and accreditation scheme for the health professions;
- national regulation of trustee corporations;
- national regulation of mortgage broking;
- national regulation of margin lending;
- national regulation of non-deposit lending institutions;
- national regulation of credit providers;
- standard business reporting;
- environmental assessment and approval;
- the first stage of payroll tax harmonisation (except Western Australia);
- harmonised wine labelling requirements; and
- nationally consistent rail safety regulatory framework (Emerson 2010).

New Australian Consumer Law to implement the national consumer policy framework and product safety reforms will commence on 1 January 2011 (ACL 2010).

*Sources:* ACL (2010); CRC (2009c); and Emerson (2010).

---

The Infrastructure Priority List submitted by Infrastructure Australia consisted of:

- a national broadband network;
- creation of a true national energy market;
- a national ports strategy;
- a national freight network strategy;
- rail and road upgrades;
- infrastructure for Indigenous communities; and
- water strategies (Infrastructure Australia 2009).

In July 2009, COAG agreed that:

... the Commonwealth, State and local governments would cooperate in facilitating the speedy roll-out of the National Broadband Network. (COAG 2009y, p. 10)

COAG does not appear to have formally endorsed the Infrastructure Priority List.

However, infrastructure initiatives have been incorporated into many COAG agreements, especially in the human capital stream (education and training; health, ageing and disability, housing; and Indigenous reform). Given this overlap between reform areas, sector-specific infrastructure initiatives are included in this annex in the sectors to which the infrastructure relates (for example, health, ageing and disability) rather than as part of infrastructure *per se*.

In response to the global financial crisis, the Australian Government committed to over \$30 billion in infrastructure spending under the *Nation Building Statement* announced in December 2008. This investment targeted infrastructure in the areas of education, social housing and transport/infrastructure. These initiatives subsequently formed the basis of the *National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan* (COAG 2009i), which was signed by all jurisdictions on 5 February 2009.

The \$3.4 billion in transport and general infrastructure spending in this agreement includes:

- \$1.2 billion to improve freight and passenger transport on Australia's railways through the Australian Rail Track Corporation;
- \$711 million to accelerate 14 road projects under the *Nation Building Program*;
- \$300 million to further improve road safety under the *Black Spot Program* and *Repairing Regional Roads* schemes;



- 
- \$150 million for safety measures at high-risk rail crossings under the *Boom Gates for Rail Crossings* program;
  - \$250 million for all local councils to construct local community infrastructure under the *Regional and Local Community Infrastructure* program;
  - \$550 million for larger strategic infrastructure projects in local communities under the *Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program — Strategic Projects* component; and
  - \$195 million for social and economic development in the East Kimberley under the *East Kimberley Development Package* (Australian Government 2008a, p. 11).

The last initiative gave rise to the *National Partnership Agreement on the East Kimberley Development Package* (COAG 2009ag), which expires upon completion of the listed projects.

COAG has signed two other National Partnerships relating to infrastructure:

- *National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Regions Initiative* (COAG 2010e), which seeks to improve digital services in regional, rural and remote communities (expires in June 2013); and
- *National Partnership Agreement to Support Local Government and Regional Development* (COAG 2010k), which seeks to improve capacity and resilience in communities and local governments (expires in June 2011).

In December 2009, COAG agreed to national criteria for capital city strategic planning systems. The COAG Reform Council is currently reviewing each State's capital city strategic planning systems for consistency with the new criteria, with a report due for release on 31 December 2011. All States have agreed to have plans in place that are linked to future infrastructure funding decisions by January 2012.

Under the *National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan* (COAG 2009i) 49 128 infrastructure projects had been approved. Of these, 47 048 (96 per cent) projects had commenced and 25 750 (52 per cent) had been completed by 30 September 2010. As of 30 September 2010, progress in commencing and completing infrastructure in the areas of education, community infrastructure, and road and rail projects are generally well advanced, while the completion of social housing initiatives is relatively less advanced (PM&C 2010).

## Human capital stream

The human Capital stream aims to:

- 
- boost labour productivity and workforce participation in the economy;
  - improve health outcomes for all Australians; and
  - reduce entrenched disadvantage in Indigenous and other communities.

It is comprised of four subs-streams:

- education and training (referred to by COAG as the Productivity Agenda);
- health, ageing and disability;
- housing; and
- Indigenous reforms.

There are two key differences between in reform arrangements the reforms in the human capital stream and those in the competition and regulation stream. First, higher-level National Agreements cover each of the reform areas in the human capital stream. Second, jurisdictions are generally free to determine how they will achieve the agreed objectives, outcomes and outputs. This means that the Implementation Plans for the human capital stream are often jurisdiction specific. In some cases, where each agreement contains more than one program or where the agreements fund specific projects or initiatives, there may be more than one Implementation Plan per jurisdiction for a given agreement.

### *Education and training*

In March 2008, COAG agreed to:

... pursue substantial reform in the areas of education, skills and early childhood development, to deliver significant improvements in human capital outcomes for all Australians. (COAG 2008w, p. 7)

The objectives of COAG's education and training reforms were developed by the Productivity Agenda Working Group during 2008. This culminated in the signing of a set of agreements in November 2008.

COAG's education and training reforms consist of two components:

- education; and
- skills and workforce development.

### *Education*

The main COAG agreement in the area of education is the *National Education Agreement*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008p) (table A.2), which seeks to ensure that all Australian

---

school students acquire the knowledge and skills to participate effectively in society and employment in a globalised economy. It seeks to do this through:

- universal access to early childhood education to improve children's school readiness;
- evidence-based teaching to ensure all children attain sound literacy and numeracy;
- improved teacher quality in all schools, but particularly in the most disadvantaged schools; and
- increased Year 12 or equivalent attainment.

Nine National Partnerships support the *National Education Agreement* by targeting specific policy priority areas.

Three National Partnerships target early childhood education:

- *National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009o), which seeks to ensure that every child has access to a preschool program in the 12 months leading up to full-time schooling, with the program to be delivered by a four-year university qualified early childhood teacher (expires in June 2013);
- *National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009as), which seeks to implement a national quality standard for early childhood education and care and out of school hours care services through, among other things, increasing the staff to children ratios and through more stringent qualification requirements (expires in June 2013); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waiver for Childcare Qualifications*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009f, 2010a), which exempts students, undertaking eligible child care course at TAFE and other Government training providers, from course fees (the updated agreement expires in June 2014).

Three National Partnerships target students at risk of falling behind and improving overall educational outcomes:

- *National Partnership Agreement on Improving Teacher Quality*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009j), which seeks to improve the quality of teachers by:
  - developing national consistency in the registration of teachers to support improved mobility in the teaching workforce,

**Table A.2 National Education Agreement: An overview**

<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Australian school students acquire the knowledge and skills to participate effectively in society and employment in a globalised economy</li> </ul>				
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children are engaged in and benefiting from schooling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people are meeting basic literacy and numeracy standards, and overall levels of literacy and numeracy achievement are improving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian students excel by international standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schooling promotes social inclusion and reduces the educational disadvantage of children, especially Indigenous children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people make a successful transition from school to work and further study</li> </ul>
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of students enrolled in school, including enrolled in VET in school, disaggregated by school sector, Indigenous status and socio-economic status (SES) of schools</li> </ul>				
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lift the Year 12 or equivalent attainment rate to 90 per cent by 2015</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halve the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least halve the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 or equivalent attainment rates by 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Performance indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children enrolled in and attending school</li> <li>• Indigenous students completing Year 10</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy and numeracy achievement of Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in national testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of students in the bottom and top levels of performance in international testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20–24 year olds having attained at least Year 12</li> <li>• 18–24 year olds engaged in full-time employment, education/ training</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Policy directions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving teacher and school leader quality and boosting parental engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater accountability and better directed resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Standards and expectations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated strategies for low SES school communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern, world-class teaching and learning environments, including ICT</li> </ul>

Sources: COAG (2008p, 2009r).

- developing and enhancing the skills and knowledge of teachers and school leaders through improved performance management and professional learning, and
- developing new professional standards that will describe what is required of teachers at different levels of professional expertise (expires in December 2013);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Literacy and Numeracy*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009b), which seeks to achieve sustainable improvements in literacy and numeracy,

---

introduce literacy and numeracy standards for all teachers and disseminate and promote measures that are effective in teaching literacy and numeracy (expires in December 2012); and

- *National Partnership Agreement on Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009m), which seeks to make inroads into entrenched disadvantage by improving student engagement, educational attainment and wellbeing in participating schools (expires in 2015).

Three National Partnerships target the provision of school infrastructure and equipment:

- *National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Education Revolution* (COAG 2010b), which seeks to achieve technology enriched learning environments to assist students to achieve high quality learning outcomes and productively contribute to society and the economy (expires in June 2013);
- the *Building the Education Revolution* component of the *National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan* (COAG 2009i), which seeks to provide economic stimulus in response to the global financial crisis through the rapid construction and refurbishment of school facilities (investment totalling over \$16 billion); and
- *National Partnership Agreement for the Funding of Fort Street High School Noise Insulation* (COAG 2009ai), which covers the funding of noise insulation at Fort Street High School to address the effects of noise from Sydney Airport (expires in July 2012).

Other initiatives support these COAG education agreements. For example, to support the *National Education Agreement*, a national curriculum covering Kindergarten to Year 12 is being developed, from implementation in 2013, to improve standards and make it easier for students to relocate to schools in different jurisdictions. A draft national curriculum for English, mathematics, science and history for Kindergarten to Year 10 was released on 1 March 2010 and for senior secondary years on 14 May 2010. While it clearly supports one of the key agreements that make up the reform agenda, the draft national curriculum has not, at this stage, been included in the reform agenda as it has not been formally endorsed by all jurisdictions.

One other more advanced education initiative has been included in the COAG reforms: *Investing in the Early Years — A National Early Childhood Development Strategy* (COAG 2009ab) (table A.11 at the end of this annex).

---

### *Skills and workforce development*

The main COAG agreement in this area is the *National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008q) (table A.3), which aims to:

- move workforce training towards a national system which is responsive to local needs; and
- deliver high quality and nationally consistent training outcomes.

Four National Partnerships support this National Agreement:

- *National Partnership Agreement on Pre-Apprenticeship Training* (COAG 2010h), which seeks to increase pre-apprenticeship training opportunities to increase the number of people that take up formal apprenticeship places (expires in June 2011);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009g), which seeks to deliver 557 556 course enrolments and 402 881 qualification commencements in specified courses to support the *National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development* (expires in June 2012);
- *National Partnership Agreement on School Pathways Program* (COAG 2009ak), which seeks to improve pathways for young people into the defence industry and address associated skill shortages (expires in June 2014);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Youth Attainment and Transitions*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009af), which seeks, among other things, to work towards:
  - improving educational outcomes for schooling,
  - increasing qualifications and skill level of the Australian population, and
  - achieving improvements in the number of Australians making the successful transition from schooling into further education, training or employment (expires in December 2013).

**Table A.3 National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development: An overview**

<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All working aged Australians have the opportunity to develop the skills and qualifications needed to enable them to be effective participants and contributors to the modern labour market</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals are assisted to overcome barriers to education, training and employment, and are motivated to acquire and utilise new skills</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian industry and businesses develop, harness and utilise the skills and abilities of the workforce</li> </ul>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaps in foundation level skills in the working age population reduced to enable effective educational, labour market and social participation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The working age population has the depth and breadth of skills and capabilities required for the 21st century labour market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The supply of skills provided by the national training system responds to meet changing labour market demand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills are used effectively to increase labour market efficiency, productivity, innovation and ensure increased utilisation of human capital</li> </ul>	
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of enrolments in vocational education and training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in unit/module completions in vocational education and training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of course completions by Indigenous Australians in vocational education and training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of enrolments by Indigenous Australians in higher level vocational education and training qualifications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of course completions in vocational education and training</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halve the proportion of Australians aged 20–64 without qualifications at Certificate III level and above, between 2009 and 2020</li> <li>• Double the number of higher qualification completions (diploma and advanced diploma) between 2009 and 2020</li> </ul>				
<b>Policy directions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reforming training products, services, information systems and regulation to meet a more demand and client driven system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driving further competition in current training arrangements and strengthening capacity of providers and businesses to build the foundation and deeper and broader skills required by the 21st century labour market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an environment that optimises investment from all sources including funding for delivery, tax policy, employment programs and incentives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal of governance framework to reinforce the role of industry and maximise effectiveness and efficiency in inter-governmental relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that skills are fully utilised and wastage of human capital reduced</li> <li>• Identify barriers and implement changes needed in the structure and operation of the training system to improve qualification completions and participation in higher level qualifications by Indigenous Australians</li> </ul>

Source: COAG (2008q).

---

### *Implementation of COAG's education and training initiatives*

Available evidence suggests that progress is being made in implementing reforms in all areas of education and training. Many initiatives appear to be up and running and others are in the testing phase. There appear to be only a minority of initiatives that remain in development stages.

Under early childhood development, the *National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waivers for Child Care Qualifications* has been in operation since January 2009. Pilot programs are being conducted for initiatives under the *National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care* and implementation has begun on the *National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education* (DEEWR 2010a, 2010b).

There are also a number of education and training initiatives that are in operation. For example:

- the *Teach for Australia* initiative has been in operation since 2009;
- training under the *Productivity Places Program* has been provided since April 2008; and
- all three components of the *National Partnership Agreement on Youth Attainment and Transitions* are in operation (School Business Community Partnership Brokers and Youth Connection Providers have been established in all States and participation requirements and training entitlements are in operation (DEEWR 2010c)).

Other education and training initiatives are in different stages of development. For example:

- the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs has endorsed the Kindergarten (Foundation) to Year 10 English, mathematics, science and history component of the new Australian Curriculum (which is currently under development) (MCEECDYA 2010);
- pilots are being conducted to test new programs under the *National Partnership on Literacy and Numeracy* and the *National Partnership Agreement on Low Socio-Economic Status of School Communities* (DEEWR 2010d);
- draft National Professional Standards for Teachers have been completed under the *National Partnership Agreement on Improving Teacher Quality* and are scheduled to be applied during 2011 (AITSL 2010); and
- an advanced technology curriculum is being developed in South Australia as part of the *National Partnership Agreement on School Pathways Program* (DECS 2010).



---

### *Health, ageing and disability*

COAG's health, ageing and disability reforms consist of two components:

- health, and ageing; and
- disability.

### *Health and ageing*

COAG's health and ageing reforms focus on:

- improving the quality of and access to health services;
- improving the effectiveness of the health workforce;
- reducing the demands placed on the health system, by targeting the risk factors that give rise to conditions such as obesity, smoking and diabetes; and
- promoting physical activity and healthy eating.

The COAG reforms and initiatives in the area of health and ageing are set out in table A.12 at the end of this annex.

The *National Healthcare Agreement*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008o) seeks to improve health outcomes for all Australians and the sustainability of the Australian health system and covers a broad suite of spending programs and reforms across seven main areas:

- preventive health;
- primary and community health;
- hospital and related care;
- aged care;
- patient experience;
- social inclusion and Indigenous health; and
- sustainability.

An overview of this agreement is provided in table A.4.

Key aims of this agreement include:

- increasing immunisation rates for vaccines in the national schedule;
- reducing waiting times for selected public hospital services;
- increasing rates of services provided by hospitals;

**Table A.4 National Healthcare Agreement: An overview**

	<i>Prevention</i>	<i>Primary &amp; community health</i>	<i>Hospital &amp; related care</i>	<i>Aged care</i>	<i>Social inclusion/ Indigenous health</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health outcomes for all Australians and the sustainability of the Australian health system</li> </ul>				
<i>Outcomes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australians are born and remain healthy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australians receive appropriate high quality and affordable primary and community health services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australians receive high quality hospital and hospital related care that is appropriate and timely</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older Australians receive appropriate high quality and affordable health and aged care services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia's health system promotes social inclusion and reduces disadvantage, especially for Indigenous Australians</li> </ul>
<i>Outputs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• immunisation rates</li> <li>• cancer screening rates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• proportion of children with 4<sup>th</sup> year developmental health check</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• proportion of people with chronic disease whose care is planned</li> </ul> </li> <li>• primary care services per 1000 population</li> <li>• mental health services</li> <li>• women with at least one antenatal visit in the first trimester of pregnancy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased rates of services provided by public and private hospitals per 1000 weighted population by patient type</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased number of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• older people</li> <li>• receiving aged care services</li> <li>• aged care assessments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reduced number of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hospital patient days by those eligible and waiting for residential aged care</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased Indigenous Australians in the health workforce</li> </ul>
<i>Policy directions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the focus on prevention through agreed national effort</li> <li>• Improve surveillance of risk factors and the evidence base to support interventions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage patient centred models of primary and community care</li> <li>• Better connect hospitals, primary and community care</li> <li>• Improve safety and quality in primary and community care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce waiting times for elective surgery and treatment in emergency departments</li> <li>• Increase the technical efficiency of public hospital services</li> <li>• Improve safety and quality of care and make service performance information available to patients</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address the needs and aspirations of an ageing population</li> <li>• Provide continuity of care across hospitals, community and aged care to smooth patient transitions</li> <li>• Develop care options for older people with dementia and mental health issues, including aggressive behaviours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce gaps in health outcomes arising from disparities in socio-economic status</li> <li>• Develop innovative evidence-based models of care for Indigenous Australians</li> <li>• Improve health services for rural Australia and disadvantaged populations including the homeless</li> </ul>

The agreement also includes additional detail and an extra objective on improving patient experience.

Source: COAG (2008o).

- 
- ensuring timely access to General Practitioners (GPs), dental and primary health care professionals;
  - introducing nationally consistent activity-based funding for public hospitals;
  - reducing the incidence of chronic disease;
  - reducing potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments;
  - improving access to, and the quality of, aged care services; and
  - increasing the size of the health workforce.

The *National Healthcare Agreement* is supported by nine National Partnerships:

- *Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009ad)<sup>5</sup>, which seeks to:
  - improve developmental outcomes for Indigenous children,
  - achieve sustained improvements in pregnancy and birth outcomes for Indigenous women and infants,
  - improve Indigenous families' use of early childhood development services, and
  - contribute to COAG's social inclusion, early childhood development, education, health, housing, and safety agendas, by identifying reforms and models of service delivery that will improve outcomes for Indigenous children (expires in June 2014);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009v), which sets out specific action to be taken by the Australian Government and complementary action by State/Territory governments to address the gap in health outcomes experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (expires in June 2013);
- *National Partnership Agreement on E-Health*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009ap), which seeks to transform the way information is used to plan, manage and deliver healthcare services (expires in June 2012);
- *National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009aq), which seeks to reduce the number of Australians waiting longer than clinically recommended times for elective surgery by improving efficiency and capacity in public hospitals (expires in December 2011);

---

<sup>5</sup> This National Partnership also includes education, housing, Indigenous and community safety reforms.

- 
- *National Partnership Agreement on Essential Vaccines*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009w), which seeks cost-effective delivery of immunisation programs under the National Immunisation Program (no expiry date);
  - *National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009ar), which seeks to deliver and maintain specified physical and technological health infrastructure (expires upon completion of all agreed projects);
  - *National Partnership Agreement on Health Services*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009ao), which seeks to deliver specified health services (expires upon completion of all agreed projects);
  - *National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009k), which seeks to reform and improve:
    - the efficiency of public hospital services,
    - health workforce capability and supply,
    - the volume and quality of sub-acute services,
    - the functioning of emergency departments, and
    - support an efficient and effective public hospital system that delivers high quality and safe services to patients (expires in June 2013);
  - *National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009c), which seeks to prevent lifestyle risks that cause chronic disease (expires in June 2015).

In addition, all jurisdictions other than Western Australia signed the *National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement* in April 2010 (2010g). The agreement seeks to reform the health and hospital system, including funding and governance arrangements.

The agreement has three primary objectives:

- fundamental reform of the health and hospital system, including funding and governance, to provide a sustainable foundation for providing better services;
- changing the way health services are delivered, through better access to high quality integrated care designed around the needs of patients, and a greater focus on prevention, early intervention and the provision of care outside of hospitals; and
- providing better care and better access to services for patients, through increased investments to provide better hospitals, better infrastructure, and more doctors and nurses.

---

The Australian Government will become the major funder of Australian public hospitals by funding 60 per cent of the efficient price of all public hospital services delivered to public patients. Responsibility for hospital management will be devolved to new local hospital networks to increase local accountability and to improve performance. The Australian Government will also assume funding and policy responsibility for GPs, primary health care services and aged-care services. In return, the signatory States agreed, among other things, to give up, on average, 30 per cent of their GST revenue to fund the agreed reforms.

The *National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement* is supported by one National Partnership:

- *The National Health and Hospitals Network — National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services* (COAG 2010o), which implements the public patient access to elective surgery, emergency department and subacute care services elements of the *National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement* (expires in June 2016).

### *Disability*

COAG has signed one National Agreement covering disabilities, the *National Disability Agreement*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008r), which seeks to:

... help people with a disability to achieve economic and social inclusion, enjoy choice, wellbeing and the opportunity to live as independently as possible, and to support their families and carers. (COAG 2008m, p. 6)

The agreement sets out the objectives, outcomes and outputs that COAG hopes to achieve through reform in the area of disabilities (table A.5).

Each jurisdiction has committed to improving access to disability care, including considering a single point of access. The States have also agreed to establish nationally consistent assessment processes, a quality assurance scheme, an early intervention framework and more consistent access to disability aids and equipment.

There are no National Partnerships that sit under the *National Disability Agreement*.

The health, ageing and disability stream also contains a range of other initiatives (table A.12 at the end of this annex).

## Implementation of COAG's health, ageing and disability initiatives

The health stream has evolved substantially since the introduction of the COAG reform agenda in March 2008, especially with the signing of the *National Health and Hospitals Agreement* by all States other than Western Australia in April 2010.

Many of the infrastructure projects funded through the *National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure* have been completed, while others are progressing.

**Table A.5 National Disability Agreement: An overview**

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with disability and their carers have an enhanced quality of life and participate as valued members of the community</li> </ul>			
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with disability enjoy choice, wellbeing and the opportunity to live as independently as possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with disability achieve economic participation and social inclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families and carers are well supported</li> </ul>	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Services provide skills/support to people with disability to enable them to live as independently as possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Services assist people with disability to live in stable and sustainable living arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income support for people with disability and their carers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Services assist families and carers in their caring role</li> </ul>
Policy directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A national model to estimate demand for disability services</li> <li>A national population benchmarking framework</li> <li>Targeting services at older carers</li> <li>A national framework for service planning and access</li> <li>Early intervention and prevention framework</li> <li>Increase workforce capacity in the disability sector</li> <li>More consistent access to aids and equipment</li> <li>Improved access to disability care</li> </ul>			

Source: COAG (2008r).

Other agreements consist of service delivery targets and, as such, do not have an implementation period. An example of this is the *National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan* under which States receive reward funding for achieving specified surgery targets. The COAG Reform Council reported that all States, except Tasmania (for which data was not provided), achieved their targets for Period 1 (1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009)(CRC 2010f)

---

and that all jurisdictions met their Period 2 (1 January to 30 June 2010) targets for the National Partnership (CRC 2010j).

Implementation Plans have been signed and commenced for all three components of the *National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform* (activity-based funding; subacute care; and taking pressure off public hospitals). The National Health Workforce Agency was established in 2010 to establish more effective, streamlined and integrated clinical training arrangements and to support workforce reform initiatives. Initiatives under the *National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health* are under development. Implementation Plans for each State have been produced, with jurisdictional programs and activities are not scheduled to commence until 2011-12. The main action under the *National Partnership Agreement on Essential Vaccines* is to transfer funding of the *National Immunisation Program* to Australian Government own-purpose expenditure, which is scheduled to take place after 2012-13. This will involve the Australian Government directly purchasing the essential vaccines for use by the States rather than funding their purchases.

Initiatives under the disability sub-stream are under development, with the *National Disability Strategy* and the *National Carers Strategy* being progressed for endorsement by COAG. The Productivity Commission is undertaking a public inquiry into the feasibility of long-term care and support schemes.

## *Housing*

In March 2008, COAG:

... identified the decline in housing affordability as a pressing issue for Australians and recognised that improving affordability is critical to addressing financial stress and disadvantage, including for Indigenous communities. (COAG 2008b, p. 7)

In November 2008, COAG consolidated a range of housing-related initiatives and their SPPs into one *National Affordable Housing Agreement*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008s) which seeks to ensure that all Australians have access to affordable, safe and sustainable housing that contributes to social and economic participation, by improving housing affordability and reducing homelessness (table A.6). It seeks to do this by increasing the number of social housing dwellings, providing rental and home purchase assistance, providing support and accommodation for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, reforming planning laws and increasing the supply of land.

**Table A.6 National Affordable Housing Agreement: An overview**

<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Australians have access to affordable, safe and sustainable housing that contributes to social and economic participation</li> </ul>			
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who are homeless or at risk of homelessness achieve sustainable housing and social inclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People are able to rent housing that meets their needs</li> <li>• People can purchase affordable housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People have access to housing through an efficient and responsive housing market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous people:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have the same housing opportunities as other Australians</li> <li>• have improved housing amenity and reduced overcrowding</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the proportion of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness who are assisted to secure and sustain their tenancies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of people who are assisted to move from crisis accommodation or primary homelessness to sustainable accommodation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of people receiving home purchase assistance</li> <li>• Increase in the number of zoned lots available for residential construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of Indigenous households provided with safe and appropriate housing</li> </ul>
<b>Policy directions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving integration between the homelessness service system and mainstream services</li> <li>• Taking joint action and a nationally coordinated approach on homelessness</li> <li>• Creating mixed communities that promote social and economic opportunities by reducing concentrations of disadvantage that exist in some social housing estates</li> <li>• Improving access by Indigenous people to mainstream housing, including home ownership</li> <li>• Establishing a nationally consistent approach to social housing to create a more transparent, accountable and efficient sector, including common costing and financial management reporting, practices and methodologies</li> <li>• Providing compulsory rent deductions and improved information exchange between the Australian Government and the States to improve the operational efficiency of public housing and to reduce evictions from public housing</li> <li>• Creating incentives for public housing tenants to take up employment opportunities within the broader employment framework</li> <li>• Enhancing the capacity and growth of the not-for-profit housing sector, supported by a nationally consistent provider and regulatory framework</li> <li>• Planning reform for greater efficiency in the supply of housing</li> <li>• Improving the supply of land for new dwellings identified through audits of Australian Government, State and Territory surplus land</li> <li>• Increasing capacity to match new housing supply with underlying demand, including as a result of work undertaken by the National Housing Supply Council</li> </ul>			

Source: COAG (2008s).



---

The *National Affordable Housing Agreement* is currently supported by three current National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009a), which aims to reduce the number of homeless people and includes the *A Place to Call Home* initiative (expires in June 2013);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009n), which aims to improve the quality of life for Indigenous Australians, especially in remote and discrete communities (expires in June 2018); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan* (COAG 2009i), which provides fiscal stimulus in response to the global financial crisis through:
  - \$6 billion for the construction of 20 000 social housing dwellings, and
  - \$400 million for repairs and maintenance to 2 500 existing social housing dwellings (expires in December 2012).

The *National Affordable Housing Agreement* has also been supported by three expired National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement on the First Home Owners Boost* (COAG 2008l) and *National Partnership Agreement on Extending the First Home Owners Boost* (COAG 2009x), which aimed to make home ownership more affordable for first home buyers by supplementing the *First Home Owners Grant*<sup>6</sup> (the National Partnerships expired in June 2009 and December 2009, respectively); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009e), which established a *Social Housing Growth Fund* to increase the supply of social housing through new construction, and contribute to reduced homelessness, and improved outcomes for homeless and Indigenous Australians (expired in June 2010).

In response to the *National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing*, the States agreed to increase the supply of social housing by between 1 600 to 2 100 dwellings in 2009-10 (FaHCSIA 2010).

COAG has also instigated a number of measures aimed at examining impediments to the supply of land and addressing housing affordability. These include:

---

<sup>6</sup> Details of the *First Home Owners Grant* can be found in Schedule A of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Arrangements* (COAG 2008n, pp. A7–A8).

---

conducting audits to identify vacant and under-utilised land and establishing the National Housing Supply Council to aggregate and assess data to improve the evidence base for housing policy and program development.

### *Implementation of COAG's housing reform initiatives*

Significant expenditure on many of the agreed initiatives has been undertaken under the housing stream (Australian Government 2010b).

The *National Partnership Agreement on the First Home Owners Boost*, including its successor agreement, provided financial support to first home buyers from October 2008 to December 2009. Both agreements have expired.

All States have signed implementation plans and a range of programs are up and running to reduce homelessness under the *National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness*.

Under the *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing*, the available evidence suggests that States delivered 316 new houses and 828 refurbishments in remote Indigenous communities in 2009-10, meeting the new housing target and exceeding the refurbishments targets for that year (Macklin 2010).

Under the *National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing*, the available evidence indicates that 1 900 social housing dwellings had been approved, with 197 completed constructions, as of March 2010. Construction is reported as having commenced on an additional 13 509 new social housing dwellings under the *Nation Building and Jobs Plan Social Housing Initiative*, with 1 768 completed and around 74 194 social housing dwellings benefitting from repair and maintenance works (CRC 2010e).

### *Indigenous reform (Closing the Gap)*

Indigenous reforms aim to close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage by increasing access to early childhood education, schooling, vocational education and health services and by promoting safe communities and improved governance arrangements.

The Working Group on Indigenous Reform was established in December 2007 with the role of overseeing the implementation of Indigenous reforms and developing reform proposals aimed, in particular, at six 'Closing the Gap' targets:

- closing the life expectancy gap within a generation;

- 
- halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade;
  - halving the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements within a decade;
  - halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade;
  - enabling all four year olds in remote communities to have access to early childhood education within five years; and
  - at least halving the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020.

COAG signed a *National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap)*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2008t) in November 2008 (table A.7), which covers overarching action in pursuit of the Closing the Gap targets listed above. There are also initiatives seeking to address Indigenous disadvantage in most of the other National Agreements.

The *National Indigenous Reform Agreement* is supported by five National Partnerships:

- *Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement* (COAG 2009ah), which seeks to enhance services in the Northern Territory in relation to the protection of vulnerable children; the provision of law and order; and quality education and health services (expires in June 2012);
- *Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Public Internet Access*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009z), which seeks to improve public access to internet facilities and related computer training in remote Indigenous communities (expires in June 2013);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Clearinghouse* (COAG 2010c), which seeks to build a cumulative body of evidence to inform and improve policy and service delivery aimed at closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage (expires in September 2014);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009l), which seeks to halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people within a decade (expires in June 2013); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery*<sup>†</sup> (COAG 2009d), which seeks to:
  - improve the access of Indigenous families to a full range of suitable and culturally inclusive services,

**Table A.7 National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap): An overview**

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Early childhood</i>	<i>Schooling</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Economic participation</i>	<i>Healthy homes</i>	<i>Safe communities</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close the gap in Indigenous disadvantage</li> </ul>					
<i>Outputs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase provision of antenatal care, sexual and reproductive health services and maternal and child health services</li> <li>Establish a minimum of 35 Children and Family Centres</li> <li>Provide early learning, childcare and family support services</li> <li>Children have universal access to a preschool program for 15 hrs a week, 40 weeks per year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School meals and nutrition programs</li> <li>Professional development in quality and culturally appropriate teaching methods</li> <li>Early intervention and specialist teachers for low achievers</li> <li>Improve retention and completion rates from year 9 up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved quality and coverage of primary health services</li> <li>Prevention, early detection and management of major chronic illness</li> <li>Address key behavioural chronic disease risk factors</li> <li>Mental health treatment that is culturally sensitive, integrated with substance abuse/criminal justice services</li> <li>Promotion of breastfeeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase number and quality of training of Indigenous health workforce</li> <li>Focus on industry sectors with jobs growth potential (for example, health, education, construction and government)</li> <li>Increased access to employment and training services</li> <li>Build aspirations and foundation skills of unemployed</li> <li>Build professional pathways for Indigenous people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance and repair of existing housing</li> <li>Improved house design</li> <li>Increase stock of public housing and private rentals</li> <li>Home ownership assistance</li> <li>Improve sewage and water quality to combat communicable disease</li> <li>Reduce overcrowding</li> <li>Government procurement includes Indigenous participation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing alcohol/substance abuse and harm</li> <li>Support youth at risk of contact with the justice system</li> <li>Community Leadership program</li> <li>Mental health promotion</li> <li>Diversionsary programs/skills learning within juvenile justice programs</li> </ul>
<i>Targets</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</li> <li>Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade</li> <li>Ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years</li> <li>Halving the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade</li> <li>Halving the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment by 2020</li> <li>Halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade</li> </ul>					

Source: COAG (2008t).

- 
- raise the standard and range of services delivered to Indigenous families to be broadly consistent with those provided to other Australians in similar sized and located communities,
  - improve the level of governance and leadership within Indigenous communities and Indigenous community organisations,
  - provide simpler access and better coordinated government services for Indigenous people in identified communities, and
  - increase economic and social participation (expires in June 2014).

The reforms also include the *National Strategy for Food Security in Remote Indigenous Communities*, which seeks to improve the affordability and availability of healthy food in remote Indigenous communities (table A.14 at end of this annex).

#### *Implementation of COAG's Indigenous initiatives*

The *Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement* continues the core initiatives progressed under the 2007 *Northern Territory Emergency Response*, including: the provision of playgroup sessions; building housing for teachers; placing health professionals in remote areas; licensing community stores; and income management.

The *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Clearinghouse* established a 'clearing house' to collate information on overcoming Indigenous disadvantage.

Under the *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation*, the Australian Government has committed to fund up to 1 280 jobs, and the States up to 720 properly paid positions in government service delivery from 2008-09 to 2012-13 (COAG 2009l, p. 8).

State-wide and selected community-specific Implementation Plans have been signed for New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory under the *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery*. Rollout of services is scheduled to commence in 2010-11 (OCGRIS 2010).

### **Environment stream**

The environment policy stream consists of measures in the areas of water and climate change. The reforms and initiatives that make up this stream are set out in tables A.15 (water) and A.16 (climate change) at the end of this annex.

---

## Water

In March 2008, COAG stated that there are:

... major challenges in ensuring sustainable water supply in the face of a drying climate and rising demand for water. Cooperative partnerships between the Commonwealth and all States and Territories is the key to addressing the water challenge across the country. (COAG 2008b, p. 6)

COAG's water reforms include two intergovernmental agreements:

- *Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative* (COAG 2004), which seeks to increase the productivity and efficiency of Australia's water use, to service rural and urban communities and to ensure the health of river and groundwater systems; and
- *Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform* (COAG 2008h), which progresses the objectives of, and reaffirms the commitment of the parties to, the *National Water Initiative*, by improving the planning and management of water in the Murray-Darling Basin by addressing the basin's water and other natural resources as a whole.

The *National Water Initiative* seeks to promote greater national compatibility in the way water is planned for, measured, priced and traded, with a view to increasing the efficiency of water use across the agricultural sector, rural and urban communities and the environment. It has been signed by all jurisdictions (Tasmania in 2005, Western Australia in 2006 and all other jurisdictions in 2004). Although it predates the start of the agenda, the *National Water Initiative* is considered part of the reform agenda as it underpins subsequent COAG initiatives.

Under the *National Water Initiative*, governments have made commitments to:

- prepare water plans with provision for the environment;
- deal with over-allocated or stressed water systems;
- introduce registers of water rights and standards for water accounting;
- expand the trade in water;
- improve pricing for water storage and delivery; and
- meet and manage urban water demands.

The *Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform* (COAG 2008h) progresses the objectives agreed to under the *National Water Initiative*.

Under this agreement, the Australian Government and the New South Wales, Victorian, Queensland, South Australian and the Australian Capital Territory

---

Governments have committed to basin-wide planning and management of the water resources in the Murray-Darling Basin.

A central element of the agreement is for the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) to prepare a Basin Plan that will set sustainable limits on surface and groundwater diversions across the Basin. A *Guide to the Proposed Basin Plan* was released for public consultation and discussion on 8 October 2010 (MDBA 2010).

The agreement also includes arrangements for water trading across the Basin and provisions for the ‘critical human needs’ of communities that are dependent on the Basin’s water. It also provides for the development and implementation of ‘priority projects’, such as investments to upgrade irrigation infrastructure.

COAG’s water reforms are supported by two National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement on the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative* (COAG 2010i), which seeks to address pressure declines in the Great Artesian Basin and promote sustainable groundwater management systems through: replacing inefficient bore drains with pipeline reticulation systems; and strategic investment in groundwater infrastructure and related activities (expires upon receipt of the final report); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on Water for the Future* (COAG 2009q), which provides Australian Government funding for a number of projects: to increase the efficiency of rural water use; protect and improve the environmental health of freshwater and freshwater dependent ecosystems; prepare communities for climate change; help secure water supplies for towns and cities; and assist households and businesses to use water more efficiently (expires on completion of agreed projects).

No other water initiatives have been included in the reform agenda.

### *Climate change*

Climate change policy was included in the COAG reform agenda as announced in March 2008.

The *National Partnership Agreement on Energy Efficiency* (COAG 2009ac) seeks to:

- assist households and businesses to pursue energy efficiency opportunities;
- achieve higher energy efficiency standards for homes and buildings;
- develop nationally consistent energy efficiency standards for appliances and equipment;

- 
- improve energy efficiency of governments buildings; and
  - assess possible vehicle efficiency measures (expires in June 2020).

The climate change stream also includes two other COAG initiatives:

- *National Principles for Feed-In Tariffs* (COAG 2008u); and
- *National Renewable Energy Target (Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Act 2010 (no. 69)(Cwlth))*.

At its 30 April 2009 meeting, COAG agreed to:

... the new expanded National Renewable Energy Target (RET), which will ensure that 20 per cent of Australia's electricity is from renewable sources by 2020. (COAG 2009r, p. 8)

In March 2008, COAG agreed to consider options for a harmonised approach to renewable energy 'feed in tariffs' — the tariffs paid to households for electricity supplied to the grid that is produced from renewable sources, such as rooftop solar power systems or wind turbines. In November 2008, COAG agreed to a set of national principles to apply to new feed-in tariff schemes and to inform the reviews of existing schemes (*National Principles for Feed-In Tariffs*). These principles are intended to promote national consistency across Australia (COAG 2008u).

The *National Renewable Energy Target* (RET) requires wholesale purchasers of electricity to proportionally contribute to an additional 45 000 gigawatt hours (GWh) of renewable energy per year, by 2020. The RET was agreed to by COAG in April 2009 and implemented through Australian Government legislation. The targets increase annually from 2010 to reach 45 000 gigawatt GWh, by 2020 after which they will be maintained at that level to 2030, when the scheme will end. It was expected that the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme will drive the deployment of renewable energy from then on. The *National Renewable Energy Target* replaced a number of existing State schemes.

On 26 February 2010, the Australian Government announced changes to the RET to provide greater certainty for households, large-scale renewable energy projects and installers of small-scale renewable energy systems like solar panels and solar water heaters. From January 2011, the RET will be separated into two parts — the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) and the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET). Combined, the LRET and SRES are expected to deliver more renewable energy than the existing 45 000 gigawatt-hour target in 2020. The Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Act 2010 (Cwlth) passed both houses of Parliament on 24 June 2010.



---

Other energy-related reforms form part of COAG's competition reforms within the business regulation and competition stream.

### **Miscellaneous other**

The 'miscellaneous other' stream consists of all remaining COAG reforms and initiatives. These measures fall into two broad groupings:

- national security, community safety and emergency management; and
- miscellaneous reforms.

These measures are listed in tables A.17 (national security, community safety and emergency management) and A.18 (miscellaneous) at the end of the annex.

#### *National security, community safety and emergency management*

At its December 2009 meeting, COAG agreed to improve Australia's natural disaster arrangements by agreeing to a new whole-of-nation, resilience-based approach to natural disaster policy and programs to:

... strengthen Australia's capacity to withstand and recover from emergencies and disasters. (COAG 2009am, p. 13)

This led to all jurisdictions signing the *National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience* (COAG 2009al), which seeks to provide collaboration on natural disaster mitigation to strengthen communities' resilience to, and minimise the impact of, a range of natural disasters in Australia (expires in June 2013).

COAG has agreed to two other national security, community safety and emergency management National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement on the Development of a Telephone Based National Emergency Warning System* (COAG 2009at), which seeks to facilitate the development and implementation of a telephone-based national emergency warning system (expires in June 2010); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Plan* (COAG 2010d), which seeks to contribute to the reconstruction and recovery of Victorian communities affected by the bushfires in February 2009 (expires in June 2011).

The reform agenda also includes two other initiatives:

- 
- *Agreement on Australia's National Arrangements for the Management of Security Risks Associated with Chemicals* (COAG 2008k), agreed in October 2008, which seeks to manage the security risks associated with access to chemicals (supports the *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy*); and
  - *Protecting Children is Everyone's Business — National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020* (COAG 2009t), agreed in April 2009, which seeks to reduce child abuse and neglect (table A.17 at the end of the annex).

### *Miscellaneous*

There are a number of other initiatives that fall outside the reform areas identified above (table A.18 at the end of the annex).

There are four miscellaneous National Partnerships:

- *National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioners and Seniors Card Holders* (COAG 2008v), which covers Australian Government contributions towards the cost of certain concessions for pensioners and provision of designated public transport concessions for out of state Seniors Card holders (expires in June 2012);
- *National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services* (COAG 2010n), which seeks to facilitate reform in the legal assistance sector and provide access to justice for disadvantaged Australians through the delivery of legal assistance services (expires in June 2014);
- *National Partnership Agreement on the Management of the Former Rum Jungle Mine Site* (COAG 2009aj), which seeks to monitor, maintain and develop a strategy for the rehabilitation of the former Rum Jungle mine site in the Northern Territory (expires in June 2013); and
- *National Partnership Agreement on Pilot of Drought Reform Measures in Western Australia* (COAG 2010j), which seeks to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of alternative mechanisms and practices for drought relief (expires in June 2014).

No other miscellaneous initiatives have been included as COAG reforms.

PART B

---

REFORM AGREEMENTS  
AND INITIATIVES



## OVERARCHING REFORM

Table A.8 Overarching COAG reform agreement

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b><i>Intergovernmental Agreements</i></b> Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations	Provides an overarching framework for the COAG reform agenda and sets out the framework for, and changes to, Commonwealth-State financial relations.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009

## COMPETITION AND REGULATION STREAM

### 1. Business regulation and competition

Table A.9 COAG Business regulation and competition reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b><i>National Agreements</i></b> No National Agreements			
<b><i>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</i></b> National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy <sup>†</sup> [Revised implementation plan: All States]	Reduce the level of unnecessary regulation and inconsistent regulation across jurisdictions, deliver agreed deregulation and competition priorities and improve processes for regulation making and review.	All jurisdictions	signed: Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013

(Continued next page)

Table A.9 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement to Establish a National Road Safety Council	Establish a national road safety council to reduce death and serious injury on roads by enhancing the national implementation of effective road safety measures.	All jurisdictions	signed: 14 May 2009 review: 14 May 2014
National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for Heavy Vehicle Regulatory Reform	Establish a project office for the development of a national heavy vehicle regulatory system for all vehicles over 4.5 tonnes, including national law administered by a national heavy vehicle regulator.	Cwlth, QLD	signed: 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2011
National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for National Rail Safety Regulatory Reform	Establish a project office for the development of a national rail safety regulatory system, including national law administered by a national rail safety regulator.	Cwlth, SA	signed: 7 Jun 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2011
<b><i>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</i></b>			
COAG Regulatory Reform Plan	Address ten cross-jurisdictional regulatory hot-spots: nationally consistent rail safety regulation; national system for trade measurement; national personal property securities registration system; national occupational health and safety standards; harmonised and efficient environmental assessment and approvals processes; nationally consistent building regulation; uniform approach to product safety; single online registration system for Australian Business Numbers and business names; streamlined and harmonised development assessment; and plastics regulation. Also includes improvements to processes for making new and reviewing existing regulations. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: Apr 2007

(Continued next page)

Table A.9 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
Competitiveness of Retail Tenancy Reform [Implementation plan: All States]	Achieve greater national consistency, fairness and transparency in retail tenancy markets across jurisdictions, through the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• national disclosure statements; and</li> <li>• consistent data collection and reporting.</li> </ul> [Extends the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 7 Dec 2009
Food Regulation Agreement	Give effect to a national approach to food regulation to reduce the regulatory burden on the food sector and facilitate the harmonisation of domestic and export food standards and their harmonisation with international food standards. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 3 Jul 2008
Intergovernmental Agreement for Business Names Agreement	Establish a national system for business name registration to allow businesses to register once, regardless of how many jurisdictions those businesses operate in. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]	All jurisdictions	signed: 2 Jul 2009
Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions	Establish a single national registration and accreditation scheme for health professionals to deal with workforce shortages/ pressures faced by the Australian health workforce and to increase their flexibility, responsiveness, sustainability, mobility and reduce red tape. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]	All jurisdictions	signed: 6 Mar 2008

(Continued next page)

Table A.9 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Occupational Health and Safety	Harmonise occupational health and safety legislation through national uniformity of the OHS legislative framework complemented by a nationally consistent approach to compliance and enforcement policy. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]	All jurisdictions	signed: 3 Jul 2008
National Credit Law Agreement	National regulation of the provision of credit to consumers, including a national licensing system for credit providers, brokers and other providers of credit-related advice services. Involves the transfer of state powers to the Australian Government. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 7 Dec 2009
National Legal Profession Regulation [Implementation plan: All States]	Establish uniform laws regulating the legal profession to enable legal practitioners and practices to operate in all Australian jurisdictions without having to meet multiple professional registration requirements. [Extends the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 30 Apr 2009
Not-for-Profit Sector Reform [Implementation plan: All States]	Develop a nationally consistent approach to fundraising regulation and to use nationally consistent accounting terms in their funding arrangements to reduce the regulatory burden on the not-for-profit sector. [Extends the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 19 Apr 2010

(Continued next page)



Table A.9 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
Personal Property Securities Law Agreement	Establish a national system for the registration of personal property securities to reduce compliance costs and improve choice and certainty for consumers and businesses who borrow money against secured personal property. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 2 Oct 2008
Regulation of the Private Security Industry: Manpower (Guarding) Sector	Adopt a nationally-consistent approach to the regulation of the private security industry (guarding sector), to improve the probity, competence and skills of security personnel and the mobility of security industry licences across jurisdictions. [Complements reforms in the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		start: 3 Jul 2008 finish: 1 Jan 2010 [expired]
Standard Business Reporting	Streamline and standardise the reporting requirements for businesses supplying financial information to government, including: payroll tax harmonisation; Pay As You Go (PAYG) tax payments summary; audit reports; and economic activity survey. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		dated: 3 Jul 2008

† Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## 2. Infrastructure

Table A.10 COAG Infrastructure reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
No National Agreements			
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Regions Initiative	Deliver innovative digital enablement projects supporting improved health, education and emergency services in rural and remote communities.	All (except ACT)	start: Apr 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2013
Ambulance Mobile Connect – <i>[Implementation plan: SA]</i>			
CDM-Net – <i>[Implementation plan: VIC]</i>			
Chronic Disease Management for Regional and Rural Communities – Hunter New England Health Service – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Clinical Outreach Program Phase II Ambulance Service NSW – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Connected – Any Student, Any School (CASAS) – <i>[Implementation plan: TAS]</i>			
Healnet – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Justice Health – Clinical Outreach program Phase II – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
National Bushfire Prediction Detection Simulation and Early Warning System – <i>[Implementation plan: National]</i>			
North East Victoria Bushfire Spotting and Response Service – <i>[Implementation plan: VIC]</i>			
South Australian Digital Telehealth Network – <i>[Implementation plan: SA]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.10 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on the East Kimberley Development Package [Variation: WA]	Support nation building and economic stimulus objectives by funding social and common-use infrastructure projects that address social and economic disadvantage in the East Kimberley region of Western Australia. [Supports the <i>National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan</i> ]	Cwllth, WA	start: 3 Jul 2009 finish: upon completion of listed projects
National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan: Building Prosperity for the Future and Supporting Jobs Now	Deliver the Australian Government's <i>Nation Building and Jobs Plan</i> announced on 3 February 2009 and the December 2008 <i>Nation Building Statement</i> to provide fiscal stimulus to the economy in response to the global financial crisis by targeting regional roads, black spots and boom gates.	All jurisdictions	start: 5 Feb 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2012
Black Spot Safety Program (BSSP)			
BSSP – [Australian Government letter of offer: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]			dated: 24 Feb 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2009
BSSP – [State letter of acceptance: QLD, SA, WA, ACT]			
BSSP – [Variations: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]			
BSSP – [State letter of acceptance – Variations: NSW, ACT]			dated: Mar/Apr 2009
Boom Gate Safety Program (BGSP)			
BGSP – [Australian Government letter of offer: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT]			dated: 9 Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2010

(Continued next page)

Table A.10 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
BGSP – <i>[State letter of acceptance: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT]</i>			
BGSP – <i>[Variation: NSW]</i>			dated: 5 May 2009
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program (HVSPP)			
HVSPP – <i>[Australian Government letter of offer: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			dated: 6 Apr 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2012 announced: Dec 2008
Nation Building Program – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
Major infrastructure projects – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT]</i>			start: Jun 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2014
National Partnership Agreement to Support Local Government and Regional Development	Improve capacity, resilience and infrastructure in communities and implement financial management frameworks that build capacity and resilience in local governments.	All jurisdictions	start: 30 May 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2011
Queensland Symphony Orchestra Co-Location Project – <i>[Implementation plan: QLD]</i>			
Fitzgerald River National Park Project – <i>[Implementation plan: WA]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.10 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>Other <i>intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</i></b>			
Capital City Strategic Planning Systems	National criteria for capital city strategic planning systems to ensure cities have strong, transparent and long-term plans in place to manage population and economic growth. [Outlined in COAG communiqué and subject to review by the COAG Reform Council]		agreed: 7 Dec 2009 finish: 1 Jan 2012
National Public-Private Partnership Policy and Guidelines	Provide a consistent framework that enables the public and private sectors to work together to improve public service delivery through private sector provision of public infrastructure and related services. [Outlined in COAG communiqué]		endorsed: 2 Oct 2008

† Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## HUMAN CAPITAL STREAM

### 3. Education and training

Table A.11 COAG Education and training reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development <sup>t</sup>	Reform training products and services to meet a more demand and client driven system; drive further competition in current training arrangements and strengthen capacity of providers to build the foundation for deeper and broader skills; create an investment environment and settings that optimise investment from all sources; renewal of governance framework to reinforce the role of industry and maximise effectiveness and efficiency in intergovernmental relations; ensure that skills are fully utilised and wastage of human capital is reduced; and identify barriers and implement changes needed in the structure and operation of the training system to improve qualification completions and participation in higher level qualifications by Indigenous Australians.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009

(Continued next page)

Table A.11 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Education Agreement <sup>†</sup>	Attract, train, place, develop and retain quality teachers and school leaders; implement a national curriculum; transparent and strengthened accountability; raise parental and community expectations of educational outcomes; support teaching and learning in schools through appropriate infrastructure; review funding and regulation across government and non-government schooling sectors; provide support to students with additional needs; and 'Close the Gap' in educational outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Education Revolution	Ensure that students are equipped for learning in a digital environment and enable schools to better access the benefits of technology for their students.	All (except WA)	start: 25 Jan 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education <sup>†</sup> <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>	Ensure universal access to quality early childhood education in the year before school.	All jurisdictions	start: Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement for the Funding of Fort Street High School Noise Insulation	Provide aircraft noise insulation works at Fort Street High School (in Petersham, NSW) to address the noise impact from Sydney Airport to improve the learning environment for students. [Supports the <i>Building the Education Revolution</i> component of the <i>National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan</i> ]	Cwth, NSW	start: 9 Sep 2009 finish: 31 Jul 2012

(Continued next page)

Table A.11 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Improving Teacher Quality <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Deliver system-wide reforms targeting critical points in the teacher 'lifecycle' to attract, train, place, develop and retain quality teachers and leaders in schools and classrooms.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2013
National Partnership Agreement on Literacy and Numeracy <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Facilitate and reward literacy and numeracy models or approaches that clearly demonstrate evidence for accelerating improvement in student results.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2012
National Partnership Agreement on Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Provide facilitation funding for a range of within school and broader reforms, including: incentives to attract high quality teachers and principals to participating schools; greater principal flexibility over staffing, management arrangements and school budgets; more flexible school operational arrangements; provision of innovative and tailored learning opportunities; strengthened school accountability; improved external partnerships with parents, other schools, businesses and communities; and access to a range of extended services.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 2015
National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan: Building Prosperity for the Future and Supporting Jobs Now Building the Education Revolution (BER) – [Agreements: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT] BER – [Variations to Agreements (May 2009): VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT] BER – [Variations to Agreements (June 2009): VIC, QLD, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Provide economic stimulus in response to the global financial crisis through the rapid construction and refurbishment of school facilities to meet the needs of students and teachers.	All jurisdictions	start: 5 Feb 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2012  dated: May 2009 dated: Jun 2009

(Continued next page)



Table A.11 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
BER – <i>[Variations to Agreements (October 2009): NSW, VIC, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			dated: Oct 2009
BER – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care <sup>†</sup>	Establish a jointly governed unified National Quality Framework for early childhood education and care and outside school hours care services, replace existing separate licensing and quality assurance processes as part of the National Quality Agenda for early childhood education and care.	All jurisdictions	start: 7 Dec 2009 review: 2014
National Partnership Agreement on Pre-Apprenticeship Training <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, SA, WA, TAS, NT]</i>	Increase the number of pre-apprenticeship training opportunities that are available.	All jurisdictions	start: 20 Apr 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2011
National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program <sup>†</sup> <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>	Increase the number of people with qualifications and the number of people with higher level qualifications. [Part of the Australian Government's <i>Skilling Australia for the Future initiative</i> ]	All (except VIC)	start: 1 Jan 2009 review: 30 Jun 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2012
National Partnership Agreement on School Pathways Program <i>[Implementation plan: SA]</i>	Address the skills shortages in the defence industry by increasing the pool of young people ready to move into further education and apprenticeships; internships; scholarships and part-time work/study combinations in the defence industry.	Cwlth, SA, WA	start: 8 Oct 2009 review: 30 Jun 2014

(Continued next page)

Table A.11 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waivers for Childcare Qualifications	The Australian Government will pay the regulated TAFE course fees for students enrolled in TAFE delivered Diplomas of Children's Services and Advanced Diplomas of Children's Services.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2009 [expired]
National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waivers for Childcare Qualifications <sup>†</sup>	The Australian Government will pay the regulated TAFE course fees for students enrolled in TAFE delivered Diplomas of Children's Services and Advanced Diplomas of Children's Services.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2010 finish: 31 Dec 2014
National Partnership Agreement on Youth Attainment and Transitions <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Strengthen participation in education and training; lift qualification levels; support successful transition from school, especially for at risk young people; and communicate the importance of education and training for young people.	All jurisdictions	start: 2 Jul 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2013
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
Funding for Better TAFE Facilities [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Funding to modernise and improve the quality of teaching and learning facilities across the VET sector. [Program lies under the <i>Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Vocational Education and Training</i> ; part of the <i>Nation Building Infrastructure</i> package to support Australia's economy]		start: 30 Jun 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2010
Investing in the Early Years — A National Early Childhood Development Strategy	Guide investment in future reforms to support children aged under eight and their families and to improve the health, cognitive and social development of children leading to improved transition to school and improved educational, employment, health and wellbeing outcomes. [Complements COAG early childhood reforms]		dated: 2 Jul 2009

<sup>†</sup> Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## 4. Health, ageing and disability

Table A.12 COAG Health, ageing and disability reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
National Disability Agreement <sup>†</sup>	Enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities and their carers through the provision of services that: provide skills and support to people with disability to enable them to live as independently as possible; assist people with disability to live in stable and sustainable living arrangements; provide income support for people with disability and their carers; and; assist families and carers in their caring role.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009
National Healthcare Agreement <sup>†</sup>	Focus on the prevention of disease and injury and the maintenance of health; support an integrated approach to the promotion of healthy lifestyles, prevention of illness and injury, and diagnosis and treatment of illness across the continuum of care; and provide timely access to quality health services based on their needs, not ability to pay, regardless of location.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development <sup>†</sup>	Improve Indigenous child mortality through better access to antenatal care, teenage reproductive and sexual health services, child and maternal health services and integrated child and family services which focus on quality early learning, child care and parent and family support.	All jurisdictions	start: 2 Jul 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2014
Antenatal care, pre-pregnancy and teenage sexual and reproductive health – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, SA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
Child and Family Centres – <i>[Implementation plans: SA, WA, TAS]</i>			
Maternal and Child Health Services – <i>[Implementation plans: Cwltth, NSW, VIC, SA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes <sup>†</sup> <i>[Implementation plans: CwIth, NSW, VIC, SA, WA, NT, ACT]</i>	Address the gap in health outcomes experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, centred on five priority areas: tackling smoking; providing a healthy transition to adulthood; making Indigenous health everyone's business; delivering effective primary health care services; and better coordinating the patient journey through the health system.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jul 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on E-Health <sup>†</sup>	Improve the health system by transforming the way health information is used to plan, manage and deliver healthcare services through the development of a world class electronic health capability.	All jurisdictions	start: 7 Dec 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2012
National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan <sup>†</sup>	Reduce the number of Australians waiting longer than clinically recommended times for elective surgery by improving efficiency and capacity in public hospitals.	All jurisdictions	start: 7 Dec 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2011
National Partnership Agreement on Essential Vaccines <sup>†</sup>	Specify transitional and ongoing arrangements for the funding and delivery of a national, coordinated and integrated approach to maintaining and improving effective immunisation for vaccine-preventable diseases funded under the National Immunisation Program.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 July 2009 finish: no expiry date

(Continued next page)

Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure <sup>†</sup>	Provide for joint investment in high quality physical and technological infrastructure for the health sector. [Some projects are funded from the <i>Health and Hospital Fund</i> ]	All jurisdictions	start: 7 Dec 2009 finish: completion of all agreed projects
Alice Springs Emergency Department – <i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i>			
Blacktown Clinical School – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Central Coast Regional Cancer Service – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Darwin Hospital Short Term Accommodation – <i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i>			
Digital Technology for BreastScreen – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria – <i>[Implementation plan: VIC]</i>			
Fiona Stanley Hospital State Rehabilitation Service – <i>[Implementation plan: WA]</i>			
Illawarra Regional Cancer Centre – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Indigenous Mobile Dental Infrastructure – Alice Springs – <i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i>			
Indigenous Mobile Dental Infrastructure – Narooma – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Indigenous Mobile Dental Infrastructure – Orange – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Narrabri District Health Service – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
New England and North West Regional Cancer Centre – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
North Coast Cancer Institute – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Positron Emission Tomography Scanner at Royal Hobart Hospital – <i>[Implementation plan: TAS]</i>			
Shoalhaven Regional Cancer Centre – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Women's and Children's Hospital Hobart – <i>[Implementation plan: TAS]</i>			
National Partnership Agreement on Health Services <sup>†</sup>	Fund initiatives that support high quality health services.	All jurisdictions	start: 7 Dec 2009 finish: completion of all agreed projects
2011 International Sailing Federation World Championships – <i>[Implementation plan: WA]</i>			
Mobile Outreach Service (MOS) Plus – <i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i>			
Positron Emission Tomography Services at Westmead Hospital – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Victorian Cytology Service – <i>[Implementation plan: VIC]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform <sup>†</sup>	Improve efficiency and capacity in public hospitals through: introducing a nationally consistent Activity Based Funding approach; improving health workforce capability and supply; enhancing the provision of subacute services; and taking the pressure off public hospitals.	All jurisdictions	signed: 27 Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
Activity Based Funding: – <i>[Implementation plan: All States]</i>			
Subacute Care – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
Subacute Care – <i>[Revised implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Taking the Pressure Off Public Hospitals – <i>[Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]</i>			
National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health <sup>†</sup> <i>[Implementation plan: All States]</i>	Address the rising prevalence of lifestyle-related chronic diseases, by: laying the foundations for healthy behaviours through social marketing efforts and the national roll out of programs supporting healthy lifestyles; and supporting these programs and the subsequent evolution of policy with the enabling infrastructure for evidence-based policy design and coordinated implementation.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2015
Social Marketing – <i>[Implementation plans: TAS, ACT]</i>			

(Continued next page)

Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
The National Health and Hospitals Network - National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services	Improve public hospital service delivery and health outcomes through: seeing a higher proportion of elective surgery patients within clinically recommended times; increasing the proportion of emergency department patients who either physically leave the emergency department for admission to hospital, are referred for treatment, or are discharged within four hours, where clinically appropriate; increase subacute care beds available for patients; and complete projects to support increased access to elective surgery, reduced emergency department waiting times and the provision of more subacute care. [Supports the <i>National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement</i> ]	All (except WA & TAS)	start: 19 Jul 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2016
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
Bringing Nurses Back Into the Workforce [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT] [Variation: TAS]	Funding to support registered and enrolled/registered nurses and midwives to return to employment in aged care and eligible private health facilities and to assist employers with the re-training and re-skilling of nurses who return to work.		announced: 15 Jan 2008 finish: 14 Jan 2013
Health and Hospital Fund	Fund strategic investments in the health system that will underpin major improvements in efficiency, access or outcomes of health care. [Funds some of the projects under the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure</i> ; replaces the previous <i>Health and Medical Investment Fund</i> ]		
Acute Medical and Surgical Unit – Launceston General Hospital – [Implementation plan: TAS]			
Fiona Stanley Hospital – State Rehabilitation Unit – [Implementation plan: WA]			

(Continued next page)



Table A.12 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
Health and Medical Research Institute – <i>[Implementation plan: SA]</i>			
Nepean Health Services Redevelopment – Stage 3 – <i>[Implementation plan: NSW]</i>			
Parkville Comprehensive Cancer Centre – <i>[Implementation plan: VIC]</i>			
Rockhampton Hospital Expansion – <i>[Implementation plan: QLD]</i>			
Townsville Hospital Expansion – <i>[Implementation plan: QLD]</i>			
National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement <sup>a</sup>	Increase the Australian Government's funding of public hospitals to 60 per cent and transfer funding and policy responsibility for GP and primary health services and aged care services to the Australian Government. Decentralise public hospital management and increase local accountability through the establishment of Local Hospital Networks.	Cwlth, NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, TAS, NT, ACT	effective: Apr 2010
National Plan to Boost Organ Donation	Fund a network of specialist doctors and clinical nurse educators in public and private hospitals around Australia to focus on organ and tissue donation; provide funds to hospitals for the additional staffing, bed and infrastructure costs associated with the donation process; and establish an independent national authority for organ donation and transplantation. [Announced in COAG communiqué of 3 July 2008]		endorsed: 3 Jul 2008
Royal Darwin Hospital <i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i> <i>[Variation: NT]</i>	Establish and manage a National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre at Royal Darwin Hospital.		signed: 9 Mar 2006 dated: Oct 2009

<sup>†</sup> Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council. <sup>a</sup> In accordance with Treasury conventions, the *National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement* is reported as an 'other' intergovernmental agreement or initiative.

## 5. Housing

Table A.13 COAG Housing reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
National Affordable Housing Agreement <sup>†</sup>	Provide social housing, assistance to people in the private rental market; support and accommodation for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and home purchase assistance; work towards improving coordination across housing-related programs to make better use of existing stock and under-utilised Government assets and achieve better integration between housing and human services, including health and disability services; and reduce the rate of homelessness.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on the First Home Owners Boost	Provide support for the housing market and for first home buyers; and simplify reporting and payment arrangements between the Australian Government and the States and Territories.	All jurisdictions	start: 14 Oct 2008 finish: 30 Jun 2009 [expired]
National Partnership Agreement on Extending the First Home Owners Boost	Extend the operation of the First Home Owners Boost; provide continued support for the housing market and for first home buyers; and simplify reporting and payment arrangements between the Australian Government and the States and Territories.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jul 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2009 [expired]

(Continued next page)

Table A.13 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Reduce the number of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through: the implementation of the <i>A Place to Call Home</i> initiative; the implementation of <i>Street to Home</i> initiatives for chronic homeless people; support for private and public tenants to help sustain their tenancies; and assist people leaving child protection services, correctional and health facilities.	All jurisdictions	start: Jan 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan: Building Prosperity for the Future and Supporting Jobs Now	Provide fiscal stimulus in response to the global financial crisis through capital expenditure on new and refurbished social housing.	All jurisdictions	start: 5 Feb 2009 finish: 31 Dec 2012
National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing <sup>†</sup>	Facilitate the provision of housing for Indigenous people in remote communities and to address overcrowding, homelessness, poor housing condition and severe housing shortage in remote Indigenous communities.	Cwth, NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT	start: 27 Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2018
National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT]	Establish a <i>Social Housing Growth Fund</i> to support reforms to increase the supply of social housing.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jan 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2010 [expired]

<sup>†</sup> Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## 6. Indigenous reform (Closing the Gap)

Table A.14 COAG Indigenous reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap) <sup>†</sup>	Commitment to work together with Indigenous Australians to Close the Gap in Indigenous disadvantage.	All jurisdictions	effective: 1 Jan 2009
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement	Continue a number of measures commenced in 2007 under the Northern Territory Emergency Response and relevant legislation.	Cwth, NT	start: 28 Jul 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2012
Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Public Internet Access [Implementation plans 2009-10: NSW, QLD, SA, WA, NT] Implementation plan 2010-11: QLD]	Improve public access internet facilities in remote Indigenous communities.	All (except VIC & ACT)	start: 2 Jul 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Clearinghouse	Build a cumulative body of evidence to inform and improve policy and service delivery aimed at closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage.	All (except TAS & ACT)	start: Mar 2010 finish: Sep 2014

(Continued next page)

Table A.14 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT, ACT]	Improve opportunities for Indigenous people to engage in private and public sector jobs through: creating sustainable employment in areas of government service delivery; strengthening current government procurement policies to maximise Indigenous employment; incorporating Indigenous workforce strategies into all new major COAG reforms; and reviewing all Public Sector Indigenous employment and career development strategies.	All (except TAS)	start: 27 Feb 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery <sup>†</sup> [Implementation plans: NSW, QLD, SA, WA, NT]	Implement a new remote service delivery model that clearly identifies service standards, roles and responsibilities and service delivery parameters to ensure that Indigenous Australians living in selected remote communities receive and actively participate in services to close the gap in Indigenous disadvantage.	All (except VIC, TAS & ACT)	start: Jan 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2014
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
National Strategy for Food Security in Remote Indigenous Communities	Improve the affordability and availability of healthy food in remote Indigenous communities; develop a clear and consistent set of National Standards for stores and takeaways servicing remote Indigenous communities; develop a National Quality Improvement Scheme; strongly encourage stores to incorporate under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006; develop a National Healthy Eating Action Plan for remote Indigenous communities; and develop a National Workforce Action Plan. [Schedule to the <i>National Indigenous Reform Agreement</i> ]	QLD, SA, WA, NT	agreed: Dec 2009

<sup>†</sup> Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## ENVIRONMENT STREAM

### 7. Water

Table A.15 COAG Water reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
No National Agreements			
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative	Promote sustainable groundwater management systems for the Great Artesian Basin through strategic investments in groundwater infrastructure renewal and related activities.	Cwllth, NSW, QLD, SA, NT	start: 14 May 2010 finish: on receipt of final program report
<i>[Implementation plans 2009-10: NSW, QLD]</i>			
National Partnership Agreement on Water for the Future	Increase efficiency of rural water use, protect and improve the environmental health of freshwater and freshwater dependent ecosystems, prepare communities for climate change, help secure water supplies for towns and cities and assist households and businesses to use water more efficiently.	Cwllth, NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT	start: 2009 finish: on completion of agreed projects
Adelaide Desalination Project – <i>[Implementation plan: SA]</i>			
			start: Oct 2009 finish: 30 Aug 2011

(Continued next page)

Table A.15 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
Black Rock Water Recycling Project	– [Implementation plan: VIC]		start: Jan 2010 finish: 31 Dec 2012
Enhancements to Victorian Water Register Systems	– [Implementation plan: VIC]		start: Feb 2010 finish: 30 Aug 2010
Gascoyne Irrigation Pipeline Project	– [Implementation plan: WA]		start: May 2010 finish: 31 Oct 2011
Geelong Shell Water Recycling Project	– [Implementation plan: VIC]		start: Dec 2009 finish: 31 Mar 2013
Supporting More Efficient Irrigation in Tasmania	– [Implementation plan: TAS]		start: 11 Nov 2009
Urban Waterways Renewal Project in Western Australia	– [Implementation plan: WA]		start: Mar 2010 finish: Jun 2012
Water Shepherding in NSW (stage 1)	– [Implementation plan: NSW]		start: 14 Jul 2010 finish: on completion of project

(Continued next page)

**Table A.15 (Continued)**

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform <i>[Bilateral water management partnership agreements: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, ACT]</i> †	Improve planning and management of water in the Murray-Darling Basin by addressing the basin's water and other natural resources as a whole.	Cw/lt, NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, ACT	dated: 3 Jul 2008
Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative	Provide greater certainty for investment and the environment, and underpin the capacity of Australia's water management regimes to deal with change responsively and fairly.	All jurisdictions	signed: 25 Jun 2004

† Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.



## 8. Climate change

Table A.16 COAG Climate change reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
No National Agreements			
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on Energy Efficiency	Implement a range of measures aimed at delivering energy efficiency gains in the areas of: commercial buildings; residential buildings; appliances and equipment; industry and business; government; transport; skills and training; innovation; and advice and education.	All jurisdictions	start: 2 Jul 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2020
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
National Principles for Feed-in Tariffs	National principles to apply to new Feed-in Tariff schemes and inform reviews of existing schemes to promote national consistency across Australia.		agreed: 29 Nov 2008
National Renewable Energy Target	Require wholesale purchasers of electricity to proportionally contribute to an additional 45 000 gigawatt hours (GWh) of renewable energy per year by 2020 and set the framework for both the supply and demand of renewable energy certificates (RECs) via a REC market.		agreed: 30 Apr 2009

<sup>†</sup> Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## MISCELLANEOUS OTHER

### 9. National security, community safety and emergency management

Table A.17 COAG National security, community safety and emergency management reform agreements and initiatives

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
No National Agreements			
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on the Development of a Telephone Based National Emergency Warning System	Develop a telephone based national emergency warning system to enable the States and Territories to deliver warnings to assist in the management and response to emergencies.	All jurisdictions	start: 18 Dec 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2010
National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience [Implementation plans 2009-10: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS, NT, ACT] [Implementation plans 2010-11: NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT, ACT]	Collaborate on natural disaster mitigation activities to strengthen the resilience of communities to, and minimise the impact of, a range of natural disasters in Australia.	All jurisdictions	start: 2 Dec 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
National Partnership Agreement on the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Plan	Address the reconstruction and recovery of communities affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires.	Cwth, VIC	start: Mar 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2011

(Continued next page)

Table A.17 (Continued)

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>Other intergovernmental agreements and initiatives</b>			
Agreement on Australia's National Arrangements for the Management of Security Risks Associated with Chemicals	Define the governance arrangements for coordinating and implementing the Chemical Security Management Framework and outline the roles and responsibilities of the Australian governments in developing and implementing appropriate and nationally consistent actions for chemical security. [Part of the <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i> ]		agreed: 2 Oct 2008
Protecting Children is Everyone's Business — National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009–2020	Deliver a substantial and sustained reduction in child abuse and neglect in Australia through: adopting National Standards for Out-of-Home Care; improving support for young people leaving care; working closely together on enhanced service integration in key disadvantaged communities; and improving access to early intervention and prevention services, including quality child care for children at risk. [Supports the <i>National Indigenous Reform Agreement</i> ]		agreed: 30 Apr 2009

† Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## 10. Miscellaneous

Table A.18 Miscellaneous COAG reform agreements

<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Initiative description</i>	<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Key dates</i>
<b>National Agreements</b>			
No National Agreements			
<b>National Partnership Agreements and Implementation Plans</b>			
National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioners and Seniors Card Holders	The Australian Government will contribute towards the cost of certain concessions for pensioners and provide designated public transport concessions for out of state seniors card holders.	Cwth, QLD, SA, TAS, NT, ACT	start: Dec 2008 finish: 30 Jun 2012
National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services	Facilitate reform in the legal assistance sector and provide access to justice for disadvantaged Australians through the delivery of legal assistance services.	All jurisdictions	start: 1 Jul 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2014
National Partnership Agreement on the Management of the Former Rum Jungle Mine Site	Monitor, maintain and develop a strategy for the rehabilitation of the former Rum Jungle mine site.	Cwth, NT	start: 7 Oct 2009 finish: 30 Jun 2013
<i>[Implementation plan: NT]</i>			
National Partnership Agreement on Pilot of Drought Reform Measures in Western Australia	Pilot of drought reform measures to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of possible alternative mechanisms and practices for drought relief.	Cwth, WA	start: 30 May 2010 finish: 30 Jun 2014

† Agreement monitored by the COAG Reform Council.

## OTHER COAG INITIATIVES NOT INCLUDED

Table A.19 Other COAG initiatives not included

<i>Reform area</i>	<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Key reasons for exclusion</i>
<b>A. Competition and regulatory reform stream</b>		
1. Regulation and competition	Arrangements for Mutual Recognition of Occupational Licences	Pre-dates the reform agenda; subsumed by <i>National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy</i>
	Corporations Agreement 2002 (as amended)	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	Gene Technology Agreement	Outside the scope of <i>Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations</i>
2. Infrastructure	Building Australia Fund	Australian Government investment fund
	Natural Gas Pipelines Access Agreement	Pre-dates the reform agenda; outside the scope of <i>Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations</i>
<b>B. Human capital stream</b>		
3. Education and training	Compact with Young Australians	Delivered under the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Youth Attainment and Transitions</i> and the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program</i>
	Education Investment Fund	Australian Government investment fund
	National Curriculum	Under development
	Retrenched Workers Compact	Delivered under the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program</i>
	VET Reform Forward Work Plan	Under development
4. Health, ageing and disability	Aged Care Assessment Program	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	Aged Transition Care Initiative	Pre-dates the reform agenda

(Continued next page)

Table A.19 (Continued)

<i>Reform area</i>	<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Key reasons for exclusion</i>
5. Housing	Binge Drinking	No formal agreement endorsed by COAG
	Bowel Cancer Screening for 50 Year Olds	Pilot programs pre-date the reform agenda
	Funding and Administration of the Home and Community Care	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	National Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	National Action Plan on Mental Health 2006 – 2011	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	National Carers Strategy	Under development
	National Disability Strategy	Under development
	National Pandemic Influenza Airport Border Operations Plan	Supports the National Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic, which pre-dates the reform agenda
	Newborn Hearing Screening	No formal agreement endorsed by COAG
	OzFoodNet	Pre-dates the reform agenda
6. Indigenous reform	Housing Affordability Fund	Australian Government initiative
	National Housing Supply Council	Information gathering
	National Rental Affordability Scheme	Australian Government initiative
	National Supply and Affordability Reform	No formal agreement endorsed by COAG
	Surplus Land Audit	Information gathering
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan	Under development
	Indigenous Expenditure Report	Information gathering
	National Indigenous Law and Justice Framework	No formal agreement endorsed by COAG
	National Integrated Strategy for Closing the Gap in Indigenous Disadvantage	Schedule to <i>National Indigenous Reform Agreement</i>

(Continued next page)

Table A.19 (Continued)

<i>Reform area</i>	<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Key reasons for exclusion</i>
<b>C. Environment stream</b>	National Urban and Regional Service Delivery Strategy for Indigenous Australians	Schedule to <i>National Indigenous Reform Agreement</i>
	No other initiatives	
	Assessment of Electricity Price Increases	Information gathering
	Climate Change Complementarity Measures	Review of existing policies; intended to complement a nation emissions trading scheme
<b>D. Other stream</b>	Renewable Remote Power Generation	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	Agreement on Australia's National Counter Terrorism Arrangements	Pre-dates the reform agenda; outside the scope of <i>Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations</i>
	Agreement on Surface Transport Security	Pre-dates the reform agenda
	Critical Infrastructure Review	Information gathering
	Inter-Jurisdictional Exchange of Criminal Information for People Working with Children	Under development
	International Students Strategy for Australia	Under development
	Memorandum of Understanding National Response to a Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak	Pre-dates the reform agenda; outside the scope of <i>Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations</i>
	National Emergency Call Centre Surge Capacity	Australian Government initiative
	National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children	No formal agreement endorsed by COAG
	Unified Policing Model (Airports)	Pre-dates the reform agenda

(Continued next page)

Table A.19 (Continued)

<i>Reform area</i>	<i>Initiative name</i>	<i>Key reasons for exclusion</i>
10. Miscellaneous	<p>Problem Gambling</p> <p>Research Involving Human Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Agreement</p> <p>World Cup Football Bid</p>	<p>No formal agreement endorsed by COAG</p> <p>Pre-dates the reform agenda; outside the scope of Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations</p> <p>Bid unsuccessful</p>



---

# References<sup>1</sup>

- ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2006, *Information Paper: An Introduction to Socio Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)*, Cat. no. 2039.0, ABS, Canberra.
- 2010, *Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 2008-09*, Cat. no. 5512.0 (and associated tables).
- ACL (Australian Consumer Law) 2010, *Implementation*, [www.consumerlaw.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=the\\_acl/implementation.htm](http://www.consumerlaw.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=the_acl/implementation.htm).
- AEMC (Australian Energy Market Commission) 2008a, *Review of the Effectiveness of Competition in the Electricity and Gas Retail Markets — Victoria*, Second Final Report, Sydney.
- 2008b, *Review of the Effectiveness of Competition in Electricity and Gas Retail Markets in South Australia*, Second Final Report, Sydney.
- 2010, *Market Reviews: Completed*, <http://www.aemc.gov.au/Market-Reviews/Completed.html>.
- AITSL (Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership) 2010, *National Professional Standards for Teachers*, [www.aitsl.edu.au/ta/go/home/pid/713](http://www.aitsl.edu.au/ta/go/home/pid/713).
- Australian Government 2007, *Federal Financial Relations, 2007-08*, Budget Paper no. 3, CanPrint Communications Pty Ltd, Canberra.
- 2008a, *Australia's Federal Financial Relations, 2008-09*, Budget Paper no. 3, CanPrint Communications Pty Ltd, Canberra.
- 2008b, *Australia's Low Pollution Future: The Economics of Climate Change Mitigation*, Canberra.
- 2010a, *Australia to 2050: Future Challenges*, Canberra.
- 2010b, *Australia's Federal Financial Relations, 2010-11*, Budget Paper no. 3, CanPrint Communications Pty Ltd, Canberra.
- 2010c, *Final Budget Outcome, 2009-10*, CanPrint Communications Pty Ltd, Canberra.

---

<sup>1</sup> The reference list covers the report as well as this supporting annex.

- 
- BRCWG (Business Regulation and Competition Working Group) 2010a, *BRCWG Report Card on Progress*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/BRCWG\\_report\\_card\\_progress\\_deregulation\\_priorities.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/BRCWG_report_card_progress_deregulation_priorities.pdf).
- 2010b, *BRCWG Report Card on Progress of the 27 Deregulation Priorities*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/BRCWG\\_Report\\_27\\_deregulation\\_priorities.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/BRCWG_Report_27_deregulation_priorities.pdf).
- COAG (Council of Australian Governments) 1999, *Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth State Financial Relations*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/docs/reform\\_of\\_comm-state\\_financial\\_relations.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/docs/reform_of_comm-state_financial_relations.pdf).
- 2004, *Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative*, [www.nwc.gov.au/resources/documents/Intergovernmental-Agreement-on-a-national-water-initiative.pdf](http://www.nwc.gov.au/resources/documents/Intergovernmental-Agreement-on-a-national-water-initiative.pdf).
- 2005, *Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australian and the Northern Territory in Respect of the Establishment of the National Critical and Trauma Response Centre at Royal Darwin Hospital*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/health/royal\\_darwin\\_hospital/Royal\\_Darwin\\_Hospital\\_NT\\_agreement.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/health/royal_darwin_hospital/Royal_Darwin_Hospital_NT_agreement.pdf).
- 2007, *Regulatory Reform Plan*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2007-04-13/docs/coag\\_nra\\_regulatory\\_reform.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2007-04-13/docs/coag_nra_regulatory_reform.pdf).
- 2008a, *Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/iga\\_health\\_workforce.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/iga_health_workforce.pdf).
- 2008b, *Communiqué*, Adelaide, 26 March, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/communique20080326.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/communique20080326.pdf).
- 2008c, *Communiqué*, Sydney, 3 July, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/communique20080703.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/communique20080703.pdf).
- 2008d, *Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Occupational Health and Safety*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/OHS\\_IGA.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/OHS_IGA.pdf).
- 2008e, *Standard Business Reporting*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/standard\\_business\\_reporting.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/standard_business_reporting.pdf).
- 2008f, *Regulation of the Private Security Industry: Manpower (Guarding) Sector*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/regulation\\_of\\_private\\_security\\_industry.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/regulation_of_private_security_industry.pdf).

- 
- 2008g, *Food Regulation Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/food\\_regulation\\_IGA.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/food_regulation_IGA.pdf).
- 2008h, *Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/Murray\\_Darling\\_IGA.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/Murray_Darling_IGA.pdf).
- 2008i, *Communiqué*, Perth, 2 October, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/communique20081002.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/communique20081002.pdf).
- 2008j, *Personal Property Securities Law Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/personal\\_property\\_securities\\_IGA.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/personal_property_securities_IGA.pdf).
- 2008k, *An Agreement on Australia's National Arrangements for the Management of Security Risks Associated with Chemicals*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/management\\_security\\_risks\\_associated\\_IGA.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-10-02/docs/management_security_risks_associated_IGA.pdf).
- 2008l, *National Partnership Agreement on the First Home Owners Boost*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/FHOB/National\\_Partnership\\_on\\_FHOB.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/FHOB/National_Partnership_on_FHOB.pdf).
- 2008m, *Communiqué*, Canberra, 29 November, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-11-29/docs/communique\\_20081129.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-11-29/docs/communique_20081129.pdf).
- 2008n, *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_federal\\_financial\\_relations.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_federal_financial_relations.pdf).
- 2008o, *National Healthcare Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_FFR\\_ScheduleF\\_National\\_Healthcare\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_FFR_ScheduleF_National_Healthcare_Agreement.pdf).
- 2008p, *National Education Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_ScheduleF\\_national\\_education\\_agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_ScheduleF_national_education_agreement.pdf).
- 2008q, *National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_FFR\\_ScheduleF\\_National\\_Skills\\_and\\_Workforce\\_Development\\_National\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_FFR_ScheduleF_National_Skills_and_Workforce_Development_National_Agreement.pdf).
- 2008r, *National Disability Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_FFR\\_ScheduleF\\_National\\_Disability\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_FFR_ScheduleF_National_Disability_Agreement.pdf).

- 
- 2008s, *National Affordable Housing Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_FFR\\_ScheduleF\\_National\\_Affordable\\_Housing\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_FFR_ScheduleF_National_Affordable_Housing_Agreement.pdf).
- 2008t, *National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap)*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/IGA\\_FFR\\_ScheduleF\\_National\\_Indigenous\\_Reform\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/IGA_FFR_ScheduleF_National_Indigenous_Reform_Agreement.pdf).
- 2008u, *National Principles for Feed-In Tariffs*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-11-29/docs/20081129\\_national\\_principles\\_fits.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-11-29/docs/20081129_national_principles_fits.pdf).
- 2008v, *National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioners and Seniors Card Holders*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/CS003/concessions\\_for\\_pensioners\\_and\\_seniors\\_card\\_holders\\_np.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/CS003/concessions_for_pensioners_and_seniors_card_holders_np.pdf).
- 2008w, *Supplementary Information to that Contained in the Communiqué*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/supplementary\\_information\\_communique.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-03-26/docs/supplementary_information_communique.pdf).
- 2009b, *National Partnership Agreement on Literacy and Numeracy*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_literacy\\_and\\_numeracy.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_literacy_and_numeracy.pdf).
- 2009c, *National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_preventive\\_health.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_preventive_health.pdf).
- 2009d, *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_remote\\_service\\_delivery\\_with\\_amended\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_remote_service_delivery_with_amended_schedule.pdf).
- 2009e, *National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_social\\_housing.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_social_housing.pdf).
- 2009f, *National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waivers for Childcare Qualifications*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/ED008/TAFE\\_Fee\\_Waiver.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/ED008/TAFE_Fee_Waiver.pdf).
- 2009g, *National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/ED002/Productivity\\_Places\\_Program.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/ED002/Productivity_Places_Program.pdf).
- 2009h, *Communiqué*, Canberra, 5 February, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-02-05/docs/20090205\\_communique.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-02-05/docs/20090205_communique.pdf).

- 
- 2009i, *National Partnership Agreement on the Nation Building and Jobs Plan: Building Prosperity for the Future and Supporting Jobs Now*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/nation\\_building\\_jobs/agreement/national\\_building\\_and\\_jobs\\_plan\\_np.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/nation_building_jobs/agreement/national_building_and_jobs_plan_np.pdf).
- 2009j, *National Partnership Agreement on Improving Teacher Quality*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_improving\\_teacher\\_quality.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_improving_teacher_quality.pdf).
- 2009k, *National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_hospital\\_and\\_health\\_workforce\\_reform.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_hospital_and_health_workforce_reform.pdf).
- 2009l, *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_indigenous\\_economic\\_participation.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_indigenous_economic_participation.pdf).
- 2009m, *National Partnership Agreement on Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/ED004/Low\\_SES\\_Status\\_School\\_Communities.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/ED004/Low_SES_Status_School_Communities.pdf).
- 2009n, *National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_remote\\_indigenous\\_housing.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_remote_indigenous_housing.pdf).
- 2009o, *National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_early\\_childhood\\_education.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_early_childhood_education.pdf).
- 2009p, *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/seamless\\_national\\_economy\\_np.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/seamless_national_economy_np.pdf).
- 2009q, *National Partnership Agreement on Water for the Future*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/environment/water\\_for\\_the\\_future/Water\\_for\\_the\\_Future.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/environment/water_for_the_future/Water_for_the_Future.pdf).
- 2009r, *Communiqué*, Hobart, 20 April, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-04-30/docs/20090430\\_communique.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-04-30/docs/20090430_communique.pdf).
- 2009s, *Retail Tenancy Reform Implementation Plan*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp\\_plan\\_retail\\_tenancy\\_reform.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp_plan_retail_tenancy_reform.pdf).

- 
- 2009t, *Protecting Children is Everyone's Business — National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-04-30/docs/child\\_protection\\_framework.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-04-30/docs/child_protection_framework.pdf).
- 2009u, *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a National Road Safety Council*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/national\\_road\\_safety\\_council/national\\_road\\_safety\\_council.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/national_road_safety_council/national_road_safety_council.pdf).
- 2009v, *National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/indigenous/closing\\_the\\_gap/Closing\\_the\\_Gap\\_indigenous\\_health\\_outcomes.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/indigenous/closing_the_gap/Closing_the_Gap_indigenous_health_outcomes.pdf).
- 2009w, *National Partnership Agreement on Essential Vaccines*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/HE001/National\\_Partnership\\_agreement\\_on\\_Essential\\_Vaccines.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/HE001/National_Partnership_agreement_on_Essential_Vaccines.pdf).
- 2009x, *National Partnership Agreement on Extending the First Home Owners Boost*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/FHOB/National\\_Partnership\\_FHOB\\_Extension.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/FHOB/National_Partnership_FHOB_Extension.pdf).
- 2009y, *Communiqué*, Darwin, 2 July, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/20090702\\_communique.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/20090702_communique.pdf).
- 2009z, *Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Public Internet Access*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/indigenous/public\\_internet\\_access/Remote\\_Indigenous\\_Public\\_Internet\\_Access.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/indigenous/public_internet_access/Remote_Indigenous_Public_Internet_Access.pdf).
- 2009aa, *Intergovernmental Agreement for Business Names Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/IGA\\_business\\_names.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/IGA_business_names.pdf).
- 2009ab, *Investing in the Early Years — A National Early Childhood Development Strategy*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/national\\_ECD\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-07-02/docs/national_ECD_strategy.pdf).
- 2009ac, *National Partnership Agreement on Energy Efficiency*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/environment/energy\\_efficiency/energy\\_efficiency.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/environment/energy_efficiency/energy_efficiency.pdf).
- 2009ad, *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development*, [www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/docs/national\\_partnership/national\\_partnership\\_on\\_early\\_childhood\\_education.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/docs/national_partnership/national_partnership_on_early_childhood_education.pdf).

- 
- 2009ae, *Regulatory Reform of the Not-for-Profit Sector Implementation Plan*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp\\_plan\\_regulatory\\_reform\\_not-for-profit\\_sector.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp_plan_regulatory_reform_not-for-profit_sector.pdf).
- 2009af, *National Partnership Agreement on Youth Attainment and Transitions*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/education/youth\\_attainment\\_transitions/Youth\\_Attainment\\_and\\_Transitions.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/education/youth_attainment_transitions/Youth_Attainment_and_Transitions.pdf).
- 2009ag, *National Partnership Agreement on the East Kimberley Development Package*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/east\\_kimberley/agreement/East\\_Kimberley\\_Development\\_Package.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/east_kimberley/agreement/East_Kimberley_Development_Package.pdf).
- 2009ah, *Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/OT004/Closing\\_the\\_Gap\\_in\\_NT.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/OT004/Closing_the_Gap_in_NT.pdf).
- 2009ai, *National Partnership Agreement for the Funding of Fort Street High School Noise Insulation*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/fort\\_street\\_noise\\_reduction/Fort\\_Street\\_High\\_NP\\_and\\_IP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/fort_street_noise_reduction/Fort_Street_High_NP_and_IP.pdf).
- 2009aj, *National Partnership Agreement on the Management of the Former Rum Jungle Mine Site*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/EN001/implementation\\_plans/Management\\_of\\_the\\_former\\_Rum\\_Jungle\\_mine\\_site\\_-\\_copy\\_of\\_signed\\_NPA.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/EN001/implementation_plans/Management_of_the_former_Rum_Jungle_mine_site_-_copy_of_signed_NPA.pdf).
- 2009ak, *National Partnership Agreement on School Pathways Program*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/education/school\\_pathways\\_program/school\\_pathways\\_program.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/education/school_pathways_program/school_pathways_program.pdf).
- 2009al, *National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/environment/natural\\_disaster\\_resilience/natural\\_disaster\\_resilience\\_2.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/environment/natural_disaster_resilience/natural_disaster_resilience_2.pdf).
- 2009am, *Communiqué*, Brisbane, 7 December, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/20091207\\_communique.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/20091207_communique.pdf).
- 2009an, *National Credit Law Agreement 2009*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/iga\\_nat\\_credit\\_law.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/iga_nat_credit_law.pdf).
- 2009ao, *National Partnership Agreement on Health Services*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/health/health\\_services/health\\_services.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/health/health_services/health_services.pdf).

- 
- 2009ap, *National Partnership Agreement on E-Health*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/npa\\_e-health.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/npa_e-health.pdf).
- 2009aq, *National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/health/elective\\_surgery\\_waiting\\_lists/elective\\_surgery\\_waiting\\_list\\_reduction\\_plan.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/health/elective_surgery_waiting_lists/elective_surgery_waiting_list_reduction_plan.pdf).
- 2009ar, *National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/health/health\\_infrastructure/health\\_infrastructure.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/health/health_infrastructure/health_infrastructure.pdf).
- 2009as, *National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/education/quality\\_agenda\\_early\\_childhood/npa\\_national\\_quality\\_agenda\\_early\\_childhood\\_education\\_care\\_signature.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/education/quality_agenda_early_childhood/npa_national_quality_agenda_early_childhood_education_care_signature.pdf).
- 2009at, *National Partnership Agreement on the Development of a Telephone Based National Emergency Warning System*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/Development\\_of\\_a\\_Telephone\\_based\\_National\\_Emergency\\_Warning\\_System\\_NP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/Development_of_a_Telephone_based_National_Emergency_Warning_System_NP.pdf).
- 2009au, *Legal Profession Reform Implementation Plan*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp\\_plan\\_legal\\_profession\\_reform.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-12-07/docs/imp_plan_legal_profession_reform.pdf).
- 2010a, *National Partnership Agreement on TAFE Fee Waivers for Childcare Qualifications*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/ED008/TAFE\\_fee\\_waivers\\_NP\\_&\\_TAS\\_signature\\_page.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/ED008/TAFE_fee_waivers_NP_&_TAS_signature_page.pdf).
- 2010b, *National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Education Revolution*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/education/digital\\_education\\_revolution/Digital\\_%20Education\\_%20Revolution.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/education/digital_education_revolution/Digital_%20Education_%20Revolution.pdf).
- 2010c, *National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Clearinghouse*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/indigenous/clearinghouse/Indigenous%20Clearinghouse%20-%20NP%20and%20NT%20signature.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/indigenous/clearinghouse/Indigenous%20Clearinghouse%20-%20NP%20and%20NT%20signature.pdf).
- 2010d, *National Partnership Agreement on the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Plan*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/community\\_services/victorian\\_bushfire/Victorian\\_Bushfire\\_Reconstruction\\_and\\_Recovery\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/community_services/victorian_bushfire/Victorian_Bushfire_Reconstruction_and_Recovery_Plan.pdf).



- 
- 2010e, *National Partnership Agreement on the Digital Regions Initiative*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/digital\\_regions\\_initiative/Digital\\_Regions\\_Initiative\\_NP\\_.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/digital_regions_initiative/Digital_Regions_Initiative_NP_.pdf).
- 2010f, *Communiqué*, Canberra, 19 April, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/communique\\_20\\_April\\_2010.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/communique_20_April_2010.pdf).
- 2010g, *National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/NHHN\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-04-19/docs/NHHN_Agreement.pdf).
- 2010h, *National Partnership Agreement on Pre-Apprenticeship Training*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/education/pre\\_apprenticeship/Pre-Apprenticeship\\_Training\\_NP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/education/pre_apprenticeship/Pre-Apprenticeship_Training_NP.pdf).
- 2010i, *National Partnership Agreement on the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/environment/Great\\_Artesian\\_Basin\\_Sustainability/Great\\_Artesian\\_Basin\\_Sustainability\\_NP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/environment/Great_Artesian_Basin_Sustainability/Great_Artesian_Basin_Sustainability_NP.pdf).
- 2010j, *National Partnership Agreement on Pilot of Drought Reform Measures in Western Australia*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/environment/drought\\_reform/Pilot\\_of\\_Drought\\_Reform\\_Measures\\_in\\_WA\\_NP\\_signed.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/environment/drought_reform/Pilot_of_Drought_Reform_Measures_in_WA_NP_signed.pdf).
- 2010k, *National Partnership Agreement to Support Local Government and Regional Development*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/local\\_government/Local\\_Government\\_and\\_Regional\\_Development\\_other\\_NP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/local_government/Local_Government_and_Regional_Development_other_NP.pdf).
- 2010l, *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for National Rail Safety Regulatory Reform*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/rail\\_safety\\_reform/Rail\\_Safety\\_Regulatory\\_Reform\\_Project%20Office.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/rail_safety_reform/Rail_Safety_Regulatory_Reform_Project%20Office.pdf).
- 2010m, *National Partnership Agreement to Establish a Project Office for Heavy Vehicle Regulatory Reform*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/infrastructure/heavy\\_vehicle\\_project\\_office/Heavy\\_Vehicle\\_%20Project\\_Office\\_NP.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/infrastructure/heavy_vehicle_project_office/Heavy_Vehicle_%20Project_Office_NP.pdf).
- 2010n, *National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/Legal\\_Assistance\\_Services.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/Legal_Assistance_Services.pdf).

- 
- 2010o, *The National Health and Hospitals Network — National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/health/NHHN/NHHN\\_Improving\\_Public\\_Hospital\\_Services.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/health/NHHN/NHHN_Improving_Public_Hospital_Services.pdf).
- 2010p, *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy Implementation Plan Part 1 – 27 Deregulation Priorities*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/seamless\\_national\\_economy/Seamless\\_National\\_Economy\\_IP\\_Part\\_1.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/seamless_national_economy/Seamless_National_Economy_IP_Part_1.pdf).
- 2010q, *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy Implementation Plan Part 2 – Competition Reforms*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/seamless\\_national\\_economy/Seamless\\_National\\_Economy\\_IP\\_Part\\_2.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/seamless_national_economy/Seamless_National_Economy_IP_Part_2.pdf).
- 2010r, *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy Implementation Plan Part 3 – Regulatory Reform*, [www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national\\_partnership\\_agreements/Other/seamless\\_national\\_economy/Seamless\\_National\\_Economy\\_IP\\_Part\\_3.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_partnership_agreements/Other/seamless_national_economy/Seamless_National_Economy_IP_Part_3.pdf).
- 2010s, *Heads of Treasuries Competitive Neutrality Matrix Report September 2009*, [www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-09-10/competitive\\_neutrality\\_matrix.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-09-10/competitive_neutrality_matrix.pdf)
- Conlon, P. (South Australia Minister for Energy) 2009, Letter in response to the AEMC's Review of the Effectiveness of Competition in Electricity and Gas Retail Markets in South Australia, [www.aemc.gov.au/Media/docs/Minister%20for%20Energy's%20Response-f1e594e0-a706-42f2-8259-43ef8a49a807-0.pdf](http://www.aemc.gov.au/Media/docs/Minister%20for%20Energy's%20Response-f1e594e0-a706-42f2-8259-43ef8a49a807-0.pdf) (accessed 9 April 2010).
- CoPS (Centre of Policy Studies) 2008, *MMRF: Monash Multi-Regional Forecasting Model, A Dynamic Multi-Regional Applied General Equilibrium Model of the Australian Economy*, Centre of Policy Studies, Monash University.
- Costanza, R., d'Arge, R., de Groot, R., Farber, S., Grasso, M., Hannon, B., Limburg, K., Naeem, S., O'Neill, R.V., Paruelo, J., Raskin, R.G., Sutton, P. and van den Belt, M. 1997, 'The value of the world's ecosystem services and natural capital', *Nature*, vol. 387, pp. 253-60.
- CRC (COAG Reform Council) 2009a, *National Education Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2009b, *National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development: Baseline Performance Report for 2008*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2009c, *National Partnership Agreement to Deliver a Seamless National Economy: Report on Performance 2008–09*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.

- 
- 2010a, *National Healthcare Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008–09*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010b, *National Disability Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008–09*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010c, *National Affordable Housing Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008–09*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010d, *National Indigenous Reform Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008–09*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010e, *COAG Reform Agenda: Report on Progress 2010*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010f, *National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan: Period 1 Assessment Report*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010g, *National Education Agreement: Performance Report for 2009*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010h, *National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development: Performance Report for 2009*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010i, *Water Management Partnerships: Report on Performance 2009*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- 2010j, *National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction Plan: Period 2 Assessment Report*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.
- DCCEE (Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency) 2010, *Renewable Energy Target*, [www.climatechange.gov.au/government/initiatives/renewable-target.aspx](http://www.climatechange.gov.au/government/initiatives/renewable-target.aspx).
- DECS (Department of Education and Children's Services) 2010, 'Advanced technology professional development begins', *Education News*, vol. 4, no. 6, p. 8.
- DEEWR (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations) 2009, *Teaching & Learning Capital Fund for Vocational Education & Training — Guidelines for the Better TAFE Facilities Element of the Program*, [www.deewr.gov.au/Skills/Programs/Infrastructure/TLCF/Documents/tlcf\\_btf\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Skills/Programs/Infrastructure/TLCF/Documents/tlcf_btf_guidelines.pdf).
- 2010a, *Overview of the Assessment and Rating Process Development*, [www.deewr.gov.au/Earlychildhood/Policy\\_Agenda/Documents/AssessmentAndRatingProcess.pdf](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Earlychildhood/Policy_Agenda/Documents/AssessmentAndRatingProcess.pdf).
- 2010b, *Early Childhood Education — Universal Access*, [www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Policy\\_Agenda/ECUA/Pages/home.aspx](http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Policy_Agenda/ECUA/Pages/home.aspx).

- 
- 2010c, *Youth Attainment and Transitions*, [www.deewr.gov.au/Youth/YouthAttainmentandTransitions/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Youth/YouthAttainmentandTransitions/Pages/Home.aspx).
- 2010d, *Piloting Innovative Approaches*, [pilots.educationau.edu.au](http://pilots.educationau.edu.au).
- DoHA (Department of Health and Ageing) 2008, *Bringing Nurses Back into the Workforce program — Fact Sheet for Residential Aged Care Homes and Community Package Aged Care Services*, [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/F5BCE0945326E6F5CA2575910082C994/\\$File/BringNursesBack.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/F5BCE0945326E6F5CA2575910082C994/$File/BringNursesBack.pdf).
- 2010, *Health and Hospital Fund*, [www.health.gov.au/hhf](http://www.health.gov.au/hhf).
- Emerson, C. (Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy, Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs, Minister Assisting the Finance Minister on Deregulation) 2010, *Seamless national economy coming closer*, Media release, 6 July.
- FaHCSIA (Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs) 2010, *National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing*, [www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/housing/progserv/affordability/affordablehousing/Pages/NPASocialHousing.aspx](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/housing/progserv/affordability/affordablehousing/Pages/NPASocialHousing.aspx).
- Garnaut, R. 2008, *The Garnaut Climate Change Review*, Final Report, Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne.
- IC (Industry Commission) 1995, *The Growth and Revenue Implications of Hilmer and Related Reforms: A report by the Industry Commission to the Australian Council of Governments*, AGPS, Canberra.
- Infrastructure Australia 2009, *National Infrastructure Priorities*, [www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/files/National\\_Infrastructure\\_Priorities.pdf](http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/files/National_Infrastructure_Priorities.pdf).
- Ludwig, J. (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), Crean, S. (Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government, Minister for the Arts) and Burke, T. (Minister for Sustainable Population, Communities, Environment and Water), 2010, *Parliamentary inquiry into the Murray-Darling Basin Plan*, Joint media release, 14 October.
- Macklin, J. (Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs) 2010, *Remote Indigenous housing progress*, Media release, 15 July.
- Mathers, C., Vos, T. and Stevenson, C. 1999, *The Burden of Disease in Australia*, AIHW Cat. no. PHE 17, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra.
- MDBA (Murray-Darling Basin Authority) 2010, *Guide to the Proposed Basin Plan*, Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Canberra, [download.mdba.gov.au/Guide\\_to\\_the\\_Basin\\_Plan\\_Volume\\_1\\_web.pdf](http://download.mdba.gov.au/Guide_to_the_Basin_Plan_Volume_1_web.pdf).

- 
- MCEECDYA (Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs) 2010, *Communiqué*, Canberra, 8 December  
[www.mceecdya.edu.au/verve/\\_resources/C07\\_Communique\\_8\\_Dec\\_2010.pdf](http://www.mceecdya.edu.au/verve/_resources/C07_Communique_8_Dec_2010.pdf).
- OCGRIS (Office of the Coordinator General For Remote Indigenous Services) 2010, Six Monthly Report: December 2009 to August 2010,  
[cgris.gov.au/userfiles/file/FACS\\_2165\\_CGRISREPORT\\_\[REPORT-html\].pdf](http://cgris.gov.au/userfiles/file/FACS_2165_CGRISREPORT_[REPORT-html].pdf).
- PC (Productivity Commission) 1999. *Impact of Competition Policy Reforms on Rural and Regional Australia*, Inquiry Report no. 8, Canberra.
- 2004, *National Workers' Compensation and Occupational Health and Safety Frameworks*, Inquiry Report no. 27, Canberra.
- 2005, *Australia's Health Workforce*, Research Report, Canberra.
- 2006, *Potential Benefits of the National Reform Agenda, Report to Council of Australian Governments, Commission Research Paper*, Research Report, Canberra.
- 2008, *Review of Australia's Consumer Policy Framework*, Final Report, Inquiry Report no. 45, Canberra.
- 2010, *Performance Benchmarking of Australian Business Regulation: Occupational Health & Safety*, Research Report, Canberra.
- PM&C (Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet) 2010, *Economic Stimulus Plan Dashboard*, [www.economicstimulusplan.gov.au/pages/dash.aspx](http://www.economicstimulusplan.gov.au/pages/dash.aspx).
- SCRGSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision) 2009, *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2009*, Productivity Commission, Canberra.
- Smith, J. and Sweetman, A. 2009, 'Putting the evidence in evidence-based policy', in Productivity Commission (ed.), *Strengthening Evidence Based Policy in the Australian Federation, Volume 1: Proceedings*, Roundtable Proceedings, Productivity Commission, Canberra.