

## Planned Activity

Field	Content
<b>Name of Division/Office</b>	Classification, Human Rights and Copyright Division
<b>Title</b>	Consideration of accession of the Optional Protocol to the UN Disability Convention.
<b>Description of issue</b>	Australia has ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability. The Government has indicated that it will consider whether to accede the Optional Protocol to the Convention. The Optional Protocol would allow the UN Committee established under the Convention to receive and investigate complaints from people who consider that Australia is not meeting the obligations under the Convention. A person would have to exhaust all domestic remedies before complaining to the Committee.
<b>Consultation opportunities</b>	The Government will consult with the States, Territories and interested stakeholders to assist it in finalising a National Interest Analysis as to whether Australia should ratify the Optional Protocol. The Analysis will be tabled in Parliament and considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (which may also call for public submissions).
<b>Expected timetable</b>	Consultations are expected to commence in the second half of 2008.
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