

Proposed activity

Field	Content
Name of Division/Office	Classification, Human Rights and Copyright Division
Title	Harmonisation of Commonwealth, State and Territory anti-discrimination laws.
Description of issue	At the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General (SCAG) meeting in March 2008, Minister agreed that interested jurisdictions would examine options for harmonising Commonwealth, State and Territory anti-discrimination laws. A working group of officials has been established to develop options for Ministers to consider. The first stage will be to identify non-legislative options to enhance access to complaint handling procedures, followed by the identification of areas that would require minor legislative or procedure reforms. The final stage would be to identify options for reform that would require substantive reforms or changes to laws or institutional structures.
Consultation opportunities	In identifying options, consultation will not be undertaken. Should options be identified that may impact on individuals or businesses the need for consultation will be considered by SCAG Ministers.
Expected timetable	Minor non-legislative options are expected to be considered by SCAG in November 2008. Other options will be considered in 2009.
Contact details	Kim Farrant Principal Legal Officer National Consultation and Harmonisation Section Telephone: (02) 6250 6583 Facsimile: (02) 6250 5924 Email: kim.farrant@ag.gov.au
Date last modified	11 September 2008