

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

27 March 2019

AIDA welcomes historic partnership agreement on closing the gap

AIDA is pleased to form part of the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Bodies who have signed an historic Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap with the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments.

The agreement formalises how governments will work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak organisations about a refreshed approach to Closing the Gap. This approach will consider defining new targets and the strategy for how reaching those targets is implemented and monitored.

The Partnership Agreement also marks the establishment of a new Joint Council on Closing the Gap that will be co-chaired by a Minister and a representative of the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Bodies.

AIDA President Dr Kris Rallah-Baker said "It is time for standard practice to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices when making decisions and writing policy that impacts our lives, health and wellbeing. By signing this agreement, the government is committing to doing things in consultation with us, not to us or for us."

END MESSAGE

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