Ms Maria Magdalena Sepulveda Carmona  
Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

Mr James Anaya  
Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous People

United Nations  
Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Dear Ms Carmona and Mr Anaya

Thank you for your letter of 9 March 2012 concerning the Australian Government’s Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory draft legislation.

Your detailed letter is being attended to by the relevant agency of the Australian Government. However, the legislation is currently before the Australian Parliament, and debate about its provisions is not concluded. In addition, there continues to be dialogue about the legislation between the Australian Government and a range of interested parties, including non-governmental organisations that represent Indigenous interests in Australia.

In these circumstances, the Australian Government will need more time before it can finalise a full response.

We will provide a response by the end of June 2012 and seek your understanding of our reasons for requesting additional time to provide our response. We trust our response will still be reflected in the reports you will submit to the Human Rights Council.

Yours sincerely

Ms Ruth Stone  
Chargé d’Affaires A.I.