

## NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE 2012 Echoes of Mabo: Honour and Determination

**4-6 June 2012, Townsville**

In 2012, the annual National Native Title Conference will be co-convened by the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and North Queensland Land Council (NQLC) on the traditional lands of the traditional owners of the Townsville area. It will be held at the Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre from 4-6 June 2012. In 2012 the conference celebrates 20 years since the Mabo decision, and is timed to follow on from events organized by the community on Sunday 3 June in Townsville.

This year the theme of the conference is "Echoes of Mabo: Honour and Determination". The conference will address the following sub themes:

- Recognition, Reform, Revolution
- Leadership and Legacies
- Families and Youth
- Culture and Country

Relevant topics within these themes include decision making, case law, the experiences of Prescribed Bodies Corporate, compensation, water, hunting practices, cultural life, joint-management, anthropology and legal practice, mediation and dispute resolution, document and information management, making and implementing agreements, benefits, economic development, local government planning regimes, health, governance, weeds, housing, climate change, heritage, lateral violence, history, language, funding, policy, legal reform, environmental issues, international comparisons, research and statistics, sovereignty, reflections on the last 20 years, social relationships, theoretical developments, and future trends.

Conference presentations will be in five formats: keynotes and plenary speeches, dialogue forums, technical workshops, topical workshops and Indigenous talking circles.

### **Call for Papers**

We encourage you to submit proposals for papers, panels and talking circles for consideration by

the conference conveners. Please submit your proposal with an abstract (up to 200 words) and biography (up to 150 words for each presenter) to [nativetitleconference@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:nativetitleconference@aiatsis.gov.au) by Monday 20 February 2012. Your proposal must include the Call for Papers Submission Form, available on our website or through contacting the NTRU. If you have any questions, please contact us on (02) 6246 1167 or at [nativetitleconference@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:nativetitleconference@aiatsis.gov.au)

For regular conference updates, visit the website: <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/ntru/NTC12.html>

The program conveners will endeavour to meet your proposal, but this may not always be possible, or another choice may be offered to include you in the program.

## RNTBC Regional Meetings

**Matthew O'Rourke,  
PBC Project Officer, AIATSIS**

At national meetings of Registered Native Title Bodies Corporate (RNTBCs) convened by AIATSIS in 2007 and 2009, RNTBCs requested state or regional opportunities to meet with each other and engage directly with Commonwealth and State government representatives about issues relevant to managing native title rights and interests. Native title holders in Western Australia, Queensland and Victoria have now had the opportunity to meet in these settings. These meetings aim to provide directors or representatives of RNTBCs with an opportunity to come together to discuss shared challenges, concerns and achievements.

The NTRU has convened three RNTBC meetings, the first on 31 August– 2 September 2011 in Balgo WA. The meeting comprised representatives from Tjambu Tjambu (Aboriginal Corporation) and Parna Ngururpa (Aboriginal Corporation) and took place at the Balgo Community Centre. The meeting was co-facilitated with the Central Desert Native Title Services and with the support of consultant anthropologist, David Martin.

Western Australia government representatives from various departments attended the meeting. The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities discussed the Caring for Country Program, Indigenous Protected Areas and carbon farming. The Department of Indigenous Affairs

