

Ngurupai

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## **Civil Society Section**

Office High Commissioner Human Rights CH-1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland

By online: <a href="https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/Account/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f">https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/Account/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f</a>

Dear Civil Society Section

## Re: individual contribution to the Universal Periodic Review of Australia

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Universal Periodic Review on Australia. Our senior Kaurareg Aboriginal Elders have endorsed our individual contribution and sincerely hope it will produce "good fruit" for our peoples.

The essence of our contribution points to the denial of our natural justice by Australia, starting in 1960 when it decided that "integration with an independent State" for colonized and dependent peoples under its administration was to be our future, and has continued that denial throughout successive administrations up to our present date.

We believe Australia's decision for our integration was, and still is, illegitimate. Since the assertion of sovereignty over our territory by the British Crown in 1788 the impact of disadvantage dispossession and marginalization continues to ravage our peoples. That impact is visible evidence of the evils of colonization that continues to deny us our inalienable right to self-determine our future.

The imposition of integration by Australia on its colonized and dependent populations runs contrary to Article 8 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We believe that decision is the sole source of disadvantage and dispossession our colonized and dependent populations suffer every day, and the sole impediment against our right of self-determination.

In our contribution we assert that Kaurareg Aboriginal peoples have been denied natural justice since 1960, and point to certain examples of imposed integration on our colonized and dependent populations, badged as "parallel decolonization techniques" by Australia.

Kaurareg Aboriginal peoples seek the return of decision making control over the quality of our lives and our environment. Our senior Elders sincerely hope this contribution will enable our inalienable right to self-determine our future. Our senior Elders acknowledge that undoing the evils of colonization must start with replacing past decisions made on our behalf, with decisions made by us and for us, in the spirit and letter of the United Nations Charter.

Kaurareg Aboriginal peoples seek to self-determine our futures by *first* being placed on the United Nations Non-Self-Governing Territories List, *second* of exercising our inalienable right to choose a legitimate form of self-government by free prior and informed consent as prescribed by General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and its Annex, 15 December 1960.

In closing, our Kaurareg senior Elders and peoples hope that our many years of subjection to an alien form of rule-of-law will change travel to the direction that honours our peoples, cleanses our lands and seas of the evils of colonization, and value adds to peace and security with our neighbours to our north and to our south not the least being Australia.

Yours faithfully,

Harry Seriat

Committee Secretary