Governments work together on jobs and training

The Australian Government and the Northern Territory Government today signed an agreement to increase workforce participation in the Territory.

Minister for Employment Participation Mark Arbib signed the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Federal Government with Northern Territory Ministers Chris Burns and Kon Vatskalis.

The Transitions, Skills, Workforce Development and Employment 2010-2012 will assist disadvantaged jobseekers overcome barriers to education, training and employment.

“The aim of the MOU is to increase jobseekers’ participation in the labour market and engage industry and business in skills and workforce development,” Senator Arbib said.

The MOU targets three key priorities:

- Indigenous Employment – 3,000 Indigenous Territorians commencing in employment across the public and private sectors in the three years to 2012;
- Young People – a five per cent increase in the number of young Territorians achieving Year 12 or equivalent qualification by 2012; and
- Remote workforce – improved availability of, and level of participation in, activities for remote job seekers in the work experience phase (under this MOU remote refers to all areas in the Northern Territory other than Darwin and Alice Springs).

“The Australian Government is determined to work with the Territory Government to ensure all job seekers, especially those in remote areas, have access to the best education, training and employment opportunities,” Senator Arbib said.

Northern Territory Minister for Education and Training Chris Burns said the MOU will help ensure no opportunities are missed to develop and prepare more Territorians for our growing workforce.

“The Territory and Australian Governments are working together to deliver a range of important projects and with that comes job and training opportunities,” Dr Burns said.

“We want more Territorians finishing school, serving in employment and boosting their training to help build our workforce of the future, especially in remote areas.”

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