MEDIA RELEASE

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FLOOD ASSISTANCE FOR TOP END

Northern Territory communities impacted by heavy rains and flooding in February and March 2012 will receive disaster assistance under the jointly funded Commonwealth and Northern Territory Government Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

Federal Attorney-General and Minister for Emergency Management Nicola Roxon and Chief Minister Paul Henderson today announced that assistance will be made available to help communities recover and rebuild.

Under Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), joint Commonwealth and Territory funding is available to the local government areas (LGAs) of:

- Darwin-Daly Districts, East Arnhem, Katherine Municipality, Roper Gulf, Tiwi Islands, Victoria-Daly Districts and West Arnhem following the heavy rainfall of early March 2012.
- Alice Springs Municipality, Central Desert and MacDonnell for the floods that began on 27 February 2012.

The assistance includes:
- personal hardship and distress assistance in the Victoria-Daly District, and
- restoration of essential public assets, and clean-up and removal of debris in all the above-mentioned LGAs.

“These events saw widespread heavy rainfall that caused significant flooding and damage to regional road networks and infrastructure,” said Ms Roxon.

“This assistance will ensure that the affected communities get the support they need and that damaged roads are restored as quickly as possible.

“We welcome the Commonwealth’s ongoing commitment to working with the Territory Government to help affected communities recover as quickly as possible,” Mr Henderson said.

“This funding support will help Territorians get back on their feet and get our roads back up to scratch.”

Further information on the range of assistance available can be found on the Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au.

For all media enquiries, please contact the Attorney-General’s Office on 02 6277 7300 or 0409 945 476