Media Release

Matt Conlan
Minister for Arts and Museums

**Australian Arts and Cultural Ministers meet in Alice Springs**

10 October 2014

Northern Territory Minister for Arts and Museums Matt Conlan has today hosted a meeting of Australia’s arts and cultural Ministers in Alice Springs.

“Art and culture is such a strong part of our great Territory story and identity and is also widely recognised as playing an important role in society across all Australian jurisdictions,” said Mr Conlan.

“Today was important to recognise how all governments work together to advance the arts, through national policy frameworks and strategies that support best practice in our arts and cultural institutions, provide opportunities for artists and arts organisations and access to inspiring arts experiences for all Australians.”

The meeting, chaired by Mr Conlan was attended by the Senator the Hon George Brandis QC MP, Australian Government’s Minister for the Arts, and:

- The Hon John Day MLA, Western Australia’s Minister for Culture and the Arts;
- The Hon Dr Vanessa Goodwin MLC, Tasmania’s Minister for the Arts;
- The Hon Troy Grant MP, New South Wales Minister for Arts;
- The Hon Heidi Victoria MLA, Victoria’s Minister for the Arts; and
- The Hon Ian Walker MP, Queensland’s Minister for the Arts.

Topics discussed today included the National Arts and Disability Strategy Review, Visual Arts and Craft Strategy Framework, Collecting Cultural Material and Private Sector Support for the Arts.

“The discussion around private sector support for the arts is particularly relevant in the Territory following the introduction of new legislation this year establishing the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory as a more independent statutory authority,” said Mr Conlan.

“I look forward to working with my colleagues from around the country to ensure these opportunities to grow our arts sector are realised and the community continues to thrive.
“Here in the Territory, the Country Liberals Government is committed to creating a confident culture that celebrates our history, strengthens our cultural institutions and supports our signature arts and cultural events for Territorians to enjoy.”

Attached: Communique - Meeting of Cultural Ministers 10 October 2014, photo of 2014 Meeting of Cultural Ministers at the Alice Springs Convention Centre.

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