The Hon Michael Keenan MP
Minister for Justice

The Hon Adam Giles MLA
Northern Territory Chief Minister

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Disaster assistance for flood-affected communities in the Northern Territory

Minister for Justice Michael Keenan and Northern Territory Chief Minister Adam Giles today announced disaster assistance in response to the floods which commenced on 22 December 2015 and impacted the Nauiyu (Daly River) community in the local government area of Victoria-Daly.

Mr Keenan said the assistance is being provided through the jointly-funded Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

“The Australian and Northern Territory governments recognise the need to provide a range of disaster assistance measures to communities affected by the floods to support them with their recovery,” Mr Keenan said.

“Financial assistance has also been activated to support the flood affected local council with their efforts to repair essential public infrastructure which has been damaged by the floods.”

Mr Giles said that events such as this are a reminder of the unforgiving nature of natural disasters.

“People have been hit hard, and those in the Nauiyu (Daly River) community suffering personal hardship and distress will be able to access assistance to help with their immediate needs,” Mr Giles said.

In addition to immediate relief assistance for emergency food, clothing and accommodation, people whose houses have been damaged may also be eligible for assistance to replace essential household contents.

The Department of Children and Families is already collecting a number of applications and is currently assessing the damage and level of assistance required for those in the affected area.

Mr Giles said the Northern Territory and Australian governments will continue to monitor the impacts of the floods to ensure that all flood affected communities have the support they need to recover.

“As the flood waters recede and the full extent of the damage becomes clearer, assistance under the NDRRA can be extended to other areas if required,” Mr Giles said.

Information regarding the assistance available can be found on the Northern Territory Government’s emergency information and response website at www.securent.gov.au and on the Australian Government’s Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au.

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