The push for national fireworks regulations has been defeated at the Australasian Police Ministers’ Conference (APMC) in Hobart today, Police Minister Paul Henderson announced.

“After last year failing in its bid to introduce a total nation-wide ban on the personal use of fireworks, the Victorian Government was today proposing to introduce national regulations on the distribution, sale and use of fireworks,” Mr Henderson said.

“Their proposal would have effectively tied Territory Day cracker celebrations up in red tape, and the Territory Government has stood against and defeated this plan.

“I was pleased that Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory accepted a resolution which I moved that they would work together to examine fireworks regulations in their own jurisdictions.

“This is how it should be – jurisdictions taking care of their own fireworks issues, rather than being forced into nation-wide regulations,” said Mr Henderson.

“I hope that after two failed attempts to strangle Territory Day fireworks celebrations southern states will now leave cracker day in the Territory’s hands.”