

Aboriginal Peoples of the Northern Territory

Response to the Northern Territory Intervention

29th June 2017

In solidarity with the Mparntwe-Alice Springs Stand Up 2017 statement ¹ and the Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation statement ² on the impacts of the Northern Territory Intervention:

We, Aboriginal peoples of the Northern Territory, “wish to place on record our sadness and disappointment about the Tenth Anniversary of the Northern Territory Intervention.”

We share our lived understanding that the Intervention was “ill-considered, outrageously expensive to the Australian people and has achieved nothing for [our peoples]. We have seen less services, less funding and less true engagement and consultation than ever before.”

We affirm that “the racist and patronizing attitudes that drove the Intervention continue undiminished. Both Liberal and Labor parties have continued the ideology of the intervention.”

We insist on Government recognising the distinctive identities of our peoples and cultures in framing a creative policy and practice together.

We are determined to find a new way forward. It is time for the Government to give us the power to determine our lives. It is time for the Government to admit that the Intervention has failed to improve the lives of First Nation peoples.

In solidarity with the Mparntwe-Alice Springs Stand Up 2017 Statement we call for:

- Repeal of racist Intervention and Stronger Futures laws.
- Reinstatement of community governance
- Return support of homelands
- Return of community control over housing and community living areas.
- Bilingual education
- Healing spaces not prisons
- Genuine community job programs. No CDP
- Stop compulsory income management
- Discontinue Stolen Generations
- Sovereign treaty

¹ <https://rollbacktheintervention.wordpress.com/2017/06/26/statement-from-standup2017-conference-mbantua-alice-springs-june-26-2017-ten-years-too-long-stop-the-intervention/>

² <http://www.respectandlisten.org/uploads/downloads/Misc/Laynhapuy-Homelands-statement-10-Years-NT-Intervention.pdf>

**CALLS from our gathering of Aboriginal peoples of the
Northern Territory**

29 June 2017

1. We, Aboriginal peoples of the Northern Territory, call for an apology to the men of the Northern Territory and their families and communities.

We demand an apology from the five Prime Ministers responsible and their key ministerial strategists,

Prime Ministers: John Howard, Kevin Rudd, Julia Gillard, Tony Abbott and Malcolm Turnbull.

Ministers- for Families, (Housing), Community Services and Indigenous Affairs: Mal Brough and Jenny Macklin.

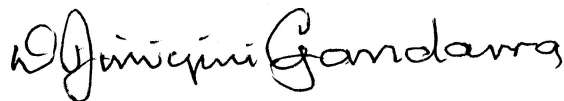
Minister Indigenous Affairs: Nigel Scullion.

2. We call for the repeal of the Stronger Futures and related legislation.

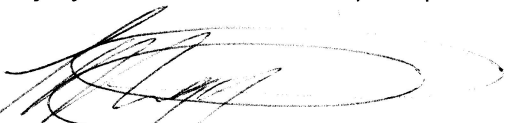
3. We call for the return of self-determination and the rights for our peoples to create their own distinctive pathways.



Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM - Eastern Arrernte



Rev. Dr. Djiniyini Gondarra OAM - Spokesperson of Yolgnu Nations Assembly



Yananymul Mununggurr - Djapu woman representing Laynhapuy Homelands



Harry Jakamarra Nelson -Senior Warlpiri Elder (Yuendumu and surrounds)



Elaine Kngwarraye Peckham from Mparntwe (Alice Springs and surrounds)