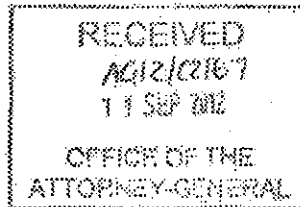




**THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MC12/09621

The Hon Robert Clark MP  
Attorney-General  
GPO Box 123  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001



4 SEP 2012

Dear Attorney-General *Robert*

Thank you for your letter of 16 July 2012 regarding post-implementation plans for the UNIDROIT International Wills Convention.

I would like to firstly acknowledge and commend the timely introduction and passing of Victoria's *Wills Amendment (International Wills) Act 2012*. Victoria's support and cooperation on this project is greatly appreciated.

I am pleased to note the findings of the Victorian Legislative Council's Legal and Social Issues Legislation Committee.

I agree, with the Committee and the Victorian Government, that wider membership to the Convention will increase the benefits of the international wills regime to Australians.

The Australian Government is committed to continued cooperation and engagement with fellow UNIDROIT members on the International Wills Convention. Despite the age of the Convention, there is still active interest in the Convention amongst UNIDROIT members. Most significantly, the UK has recently finished drafting implementing legislation and implementing legislation has been passed in multiple states in the US. Australia's accession is likely to renew attention on the International Wills Convention and spur the implementation efforts of current signatories and fellow UNIDROIT members. We will strongly encourage other parties to accede to the Convention.

With respect to post implementation programs, I understand the value such programs will bring to the community. I will ask AGD officers to contact your Department to discuss practical measures to support awareness raising activities.

The action officer for this matter is Angela Teh who can be contacted on (02) 6141 3482.

Yours sincerely

NICOLA ROXON