



MEDIA RELEASE

17 March 2010

National Compact will boost Third Sector and social inclusion

The launch today of the Australian Government's National Compact: Working Together will help boost the role of the Third Sector and improve social inclusion in Australia.

The National Compact outlines ways in which governments and the many not-for-profit organisations can work co-operatively to support the most vulnerable people and those most in need of services, advocacy and support.

David Crosbie, CEO of the Mental Health Council of Australia, is a member of the National Compact Sector Advisory Group, which was established to advise the Australian Government on the implementation strategy for the National Compact; provide high-level leadership and advice; and champion the Compact more broadly across the Third Sector

"At its heart, the Compact is not just about organisations and governments, but communities and the way we relate to each other," Mr Crosbie said.

"The Compact seeks to strengthen the role of both individuals and organisations in our community that support our connectedness and our inter-dependence.

"Unfortunately, Australia is a place of increasing isolation, yet our health and wellbeing is grounded in the way we connect with others, the value and meaning in our lives. There is much work to do in this area.

"It is therefore a great honour to be part of the movement to implement the Compact across Australia. I look forward to contributing to real change in the way we all value and engage with our communities. Through the Compact I hope we will be able to both acknowledge and build on the wonderful work being done every day in Australia to make us a more resilient and inclusive community.

Media Contact: Simon Tatz on 02 6285 3100 or 0402 613 745