

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

16 December 2020

Hon. Ken Wyatt MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

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Dear Minister Wyatt

RE: SUPPORT OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON MAKARRATA

I am writing to you in support of a motion that will be put to the Senate on the 15th February 2021. It would set up a select committee, which would be known as the Joint Select Committee on Makarrata.

You have committed to passing legislation to create an Indigenous voice to government before the next election. Before the creation of a voice, we need Makarrata. We need truth-telling, and we need to explore a treaty.

The above-mentioned motion will allow the parliament to explore the history and progress of truth-telling and treaty-making in Australia, international developments in treaty-making and truth-telling, the representation of First Nations parties in treaty-making and truth-telling, and the role of First Nations Voice to Parliament. As you know, an important part of the select committee process is consultation: First Nations peoples and organisations will be able to tell their parliament what they want from possible truth-telling and treaty-making processes, and a voice to parliament.

I was there when the Uluru Statement of the Heart was formed and I want to see action on what we all agreed upon that day. The establishment of a select committee is a good first step towards achieving the Statement. Please support the motion to set up the committee.

For further information, or to discuss and organise a meeting, please contact Joel MacKay at joel.mackay@amnesty.org.au or 0424 242 112.

Yours sincerely,

Nolan Hunter
Indigenous Rights Lead
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