

Skilled migration changes feature prominently in this newsletter together with amendments to certain visa subclasses, and a crackdown on abuse of the student visa program. Also included are the Federal Budget measures to counter people smuggling.

New Skilled Occupation List (SOL) released on 17 May 2010

The long waited new SOL list was finally announced by the Minister on the 17 May 2010. The total number of skilled occupations on the list has been reduced from more than 400 to 181. The new SOL will come into effect from 1 July 2010. Please see <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/pdf/new-list-of-occupations.pdf>

The new list is based on the new Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) replacing the Australian Standard of Classification of Occupations (ASCO) previously used. Readers should be aware there are significant changes in the classifications of occupations and criteria in the ANZSCO compared to ASCO. For instance, Accountants are subdivided into Accountant (general), Management Accountant and Taxation Accountant. Compulsory registration or licensing is required for Accountants.

The Minister is yet to announce changes to the Employer Sponsored Skilled Occupation List (ENSOL), which is expected to contain more occupations than those on the new SOL.

State and Territory governments may also sponsor applicants with occupations not on the new SOL under the new state/territory migration plans which are expected to be implemented in the second half of 2010.

Current overseas students in Australia who will be affected by the changes are advised to lodge their general skilled migration visa prior to 1 July 2010. For assessment of eligibility to apply for a general skilled visa, please contact our office for individual advice.

For detailed summary of recent changes to the General Skills Migration Program, please refer to: <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/pdf/new-list-of-occupations.pdf>

Amendments to prevent primary applications for certain General Skilled Migration (GSM) visa subclasses

Commencement: 8 May 2010

From 8 May 2010, the Migration Regulations 1994 (the Regulations) are amended to prevent applicants seeking to satisfy the primary criteria for a Subclass 175 (Skilled – Independent), Subclass 176 (Skilled – Sponsored) or Subclass 475 (Skilled – Regional Sponsored) visa from being able to make a valid visa application during the period commencing on 8 May 2010 and ending on a date specified by the Minister in an instrument in writing, which is likely to be 1 July 2010 when the new SOL comes into effect.

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The purpose of the amendments is to prevent applications for offshore GSM visas being made on or after 8 May 2010. The changes to the SOL are designed to better target Australia's skilled migration program.

<http://www.immi.gov.au/legislation/amendments/2010/100508/lc08052010-01.htm>

Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010

The Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010 (the Bill) seeks to amend the Migration Act 1958 to enable the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship to cap visa grants and terminate visa applications based on the class or classes of applicant applying for the visa. In particular, the Bill would enable the Minister to make a legislative instrument to determine the maximum number of visas of a specified class or classes that may be granted in a financial year to visa applicants with specified characteristics, and treat outstanding applications for the capped visa as never having been made. The proposed amendments are intended to address issues relating to the General Skilled Migration (GSM) visa program.

www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/legcon_ctte/migration_amendment_visas_capping/index.htm

Migration assessment for accountants

Highly trained and educated professionals from around the world are encouraged to study, work and settle in Australia.

CPA Australia is gazetted by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) as one of the authorities to assess qualification for qualified accountants seeking immigration to Australia under the following Australian standard classification of occupations (ASCO) codes.

Nominated ASCO codes are:

- accountants (ASCO code 2211-11)
- accountant, corporate treasurers (ASCO code 2213-11)
- accountant, external auditors (ASCO code 2212-11)
- finance managers (ASCO code 1211-11)

From 1 July, CPA Australia's assessment criteria for General Skills Migration will require applicants to have:

- A formal qualification assessed as being at least comparable to an Australian Bachelor degree.
- Completion of at least 9 out of the 12 core knowledge areas at tertiary level. Each nominated occupation has 4 mandatory core knowledge areas.
- IELTS Academic Test Report Form (TRF) Number to show you have a band score of at least seven (7) on each of the four (4) components – speaking, reading, listening and writing.

Information on the 12 core curriculum areas may be found at:

<http://www.cpaaustralia.com.au/cps/rde/schg/cpa-site/hs.xsl/become-how-migration.html>

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Government closes student visa loopholes

Tough new measures to crack down on the abuse of the student visa program introduced in March are designed to ensure only genuine international students are accepted to study in Australia, the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, said recently.

'This latest round of changes strikes the right balance between making the visa application process easier for genuine students while imposing additional checks on those who may seek to abuse the system,' Senator Evans said. The latest measures include changes to the assessment of students studying more than one course, increased powers to cancel visas and streamlining the processing of postgraduate students.

'These measures build on the changes already introduced to ensure the student visa program is not open to abuse,' Senator Evans said. '[They] will help reduce fraud by ensuring students are not able to select courses they do not intend to complete, simply to receive a more favourable risk assessment level.'

The Minister said changes had also been made to the migration regulations to strengthen the visa cancellation guidelines where a student is found to have deferred or suspended their studies for non-genuine reasons. In combination, these measures will support a student visa program that facilitates the entry of genuine international students to Australia to study full-time.

They significantly reflect a return to the regime in place in the 1990s where most overseas students on completion of studies in Australia left the country and could not assume that Australian studies were an automatic pathway to permanent residence in Australia.

<http://www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/media-releases/2010/ce10031.htm>

Spurned Indian students fight for refund of their fees

Students in India are struggling to have millions of dollars in fees refunded despite being unable to enter Australia. Education agents say the problem came to light after colleges in Australia began collapsing last year and the government began refusing student visas.

India's Minister for Human Resource Development, Kapil Sibal, stated he was aware of "denied refunds" and planned to raise the issue with the Australian government. "This is an issue that we will take up in the joint working group which has been set up at the official level. Certainly we will talk to [the Australian government] and find out the facts," Mr Sibal said.

"Claims made by individual students about payments and difficulties in securing refunds are investigated on a case-by-case basis - as such it is difficult for the department to comment on this broad question," the Department of Education said in a statement.

Students are seeking refunds from colleges which have either closed because of a federal government crackdown or are still open but face financial constraints due to a downturn in student enrolments, particularly from India.

Hales Institute, one of Melbourne's oldest colleges, was placed in voluntary administration in February after months of financial strife. In a letter to education agents in November, the college's managing director, Spiro Liolios, admitted enrolling more students than the college was allowed and withholding students' refunds. "Having exceeded the number of enrolments we were [allowed], we

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found ourselves in an unhappy situation by which we had to delay certain financial obligations" - refunds and commissions, he wrote.

According to the Department of Education, prepaid fees are protected by the Education Services for Overseas Students [ESOS] Assurance Fund. However, Glenn Pereira, the chief executive of the Culinary Institute of Australia and a registered migration agent, said the fund did not cover the students because they were not technically enrolled students.

<http://www.smh.com.au/world/spurned-indian-students-fight-for-refund-of-their-fees-20100502-u1jg.html>

Changes to Health PAM (Procedures Advice Manual) – 27 March 2010

The following is a summary of the changes in health requirements:

- Health Services Australia (HAS) has been re-branded as Medibank Health Solutions.
- Clarification of health assessment requirements for dependant applicants of a principal student applicant.
- Clarification of requirements for applicants likely to enter a private doctor's or dentist's surgery.
- Clarification of requirements for health professionals who are not considered to be doctors, nurses, paramedics or students of these professions for the purposes of their health assessments.
- Clarification of policy concerning applicants who suffer from diabetes.
- Change to requirement for carers to be assessed by Medibank Health Solutions in person.
- Clarification of policy about pregnant visa applicants, intending to give birth in Australia.
- For babies born in Australia, six months of age or younger, the 'Child Health Record' or 'Personal Health Record' booklet will no longer be accepted by Medibank Health Solutions.
- Papua New Guinea has been added to the list of countries that can, in some circumstances, provide local clearance for the limited temporary caseload.

For further details of the above changes see:

http://www.immi.gov.au/gateways/agents/news/2010/health_changes.htm

Legislative Changes

Effective 19 April 2010

Changes to the Business Skills visa program, have been announced by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

The following amendments have been implemented by DIAC and will apply to new applications lodged on or after 19 April 2010.

Resources

Speeches

APB Education

Applications lodged with DIAC before this date will not be affected by the amendments.

The Amendments

State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Provisional) (Subclass 163)
State/Territory Sponsored Senior Executive (Provisional) (Subclass 164)

The minimum net business and personal assets required for the 163 and 164 provisional Business Skills visas will be increased from A\$250 000 to A\$500 000 in addition to assets that the State/Territory government sponsor considers adequate to settle in Australia.

Business Talent (Residence) (Subclass 132)

State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Residence) (Subclass 892)

The ownership requirement of all business owner visas (including 132 and 892) will be increased from 10% to:

- 51% where the business turnover is less than A\$400 000;
- 30% where the business turnover is A\$400 000 or more; or
- 10% where the business is a publicly listed company.

A transitional provision will be available for onshore visa applicants who have purchased a business in Australia prior to the change and are applying for a permanent business owner visa.

State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Provisional)(Subclass 163)

The senior manager provision will be removed from the Subclass 163 visa.

South Australian sponsorships

As a sponsoring authority, Immigration SA ensures that the applicants it sponsors will be able to meet all DIAC visa requirements. The following arrangements are implemented.

Finalised applications:

If your sponsorship application has already been approved by Immigration SA and you are yet to lodge a visa application with DIAC, you must meet the new criteria.

Applications to be processed:

Immigration SA has a publically stated service standard of 4 weeks processing time from the date a complete application (including all supporting documents) has been received by our office.

Any application not assessed by Immigration SA by the 19 April 2010 will be required to meet the new DIAC criteria.

If the application does not meet the new DIAC criteria the application for sponsorship will not be approved. If you believe that the application will meet the new criteria, you may provide Immigration SA with further evidence to that effect.

If you have any further enquiries, please contact the Department at bmusa@sa.gov.au

Minister for Immigration and Citizenship v SZMDS [2010] HCA 16 (26 May 2010)

Appeal to the High Court of Australia by the Minister for Immigration in which the first respondent was a citizen of Pakistan who had previously sought a protection visa "on the basis of my ... practice of homosexuality". Appeal allowed.

For a copy of the decision see: <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/cth/HCA/2010/16.html>

Multicultural Affairs

Australian Multicultural Advisory Council (AMAC)

The Australian Multicultural Advisory Council was officially launched by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, on 17 December 2008 in Melbourne. It consists of 16 members with a wide range of backgrounds, experience and professional expertise and reflecting a balance of ages and gender.

The council provides the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship and the Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services with advice on:

- social cohesion issues relating to Australia's cultural and religious diversity
- overcoming intolerance and racism in Australia
- communicating the social and economic benefits of Australia's cultural diversity to the broad community
- issues relating to the social and civic participation of migrants in Australian society.

On 30 April 2010, the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council presented its statement on cultural diversity and recommendations to the government, titled *The People of Australia*. For full text of this statement visit:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/about/stakeholder-engagement/national/advisory/amac/>

Multicultural policy to speak to all Australians

The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, recently thanked the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council (AMAC) for presenting its advice to government, *The People of Australia*.

'Council members have already contributed significantly to the success of a diverse Australia. They have ensured this advice to government is based on extensive community consultations,' Senator Evans said. 'Australia's approach to immigration and cultural diversity is a national strength but it is a strength which should not be taken for granted.'

'The government is committed to ensuring that future multicultural policy is based on participation and inclusion. It is a policy that is about all Australians and it should seek to benefit us all.'

'We need to ensure that people settle in communities where they find a job rather than settling in communities where they are destined to join a job queue. ... People who come to Australia, be they refugees or migrants, want to integrate and contribute to our community. There is an onus on government to provide that opportunity to all,' Senator Evans said

<http://www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/media-releases/2010/ce10033.htm>

Indian migrants to be one of Australia's largest communities

Indian migrants will be one of the largest communities in this country in the next 15 years when Australia-born families will become a minority group, says a report in the Times of India citing statistics from a consulting firm.

"Figures from Macroplan Australia show record overseas migration and an ageing population mean migrant families will overtake the number of locally born residents by 2025 - far sooner than previously imagined," the report said. According to 2006 census data, 40% of Australia's population was either

born overseas or had at least one parent who was born abroad. With the current immigration levels that proportion will jump to over 50% by 2025.

The newly-appointed first Population Minister Tony Burke now faces the task of managing the influx of migrants, which is expected to swell the population from 22 million today to 36 million by 2050.

Experts say a migrant majority will be healthy for Australian culture and attitudes. "It all adds to the cosmopolitan nature of modern Australia," KPMG demographer Bernard Salt said. "It means our views become less blinkered, and we become more tolerant, confident, engaged, opportunistic and optimistic because we are open to new ideas, not obsessed with keeping things the same."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World-Indians-Abroad/Indian-migrants-to-be-one-of-Australias-largest-communities-says-report/articleshow/5828493.cms>

Reforms result in 20 per cent drop in net overseas migration

Australia's net overseas migration (NOM) level is predicted to drop by 20 per cent by the end of the financial year in response to government reforms to temporary and permanent migration and economic conditions, the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, said recently.

Launching the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's (DIAC) flagship publication, *Population flows – Immigration aspects 2008-09*, Senator Evans said the level of NOM – which includes both permanent migrants and long-term temporary migrants – peaked in 2008-09 and is on the way down.

Latest figures from the ABS show that NOM peaked in the 12 months to 31 March 2009 at 305 900 people.

'By the end of 2009-2010, we expect the NOM to have fallen to between 230 000 and 250 000,' Senator Evans said.

<http://www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/media-releases/2010/ce10042.htm>

Terrorism alert intensifies ocean patrols

Citing threats of terrorism, the government has bolstered border security by \$1.2 billion, some of which will be spent in Indonesia to stop asylum seekers heading for Australian shores.

It has bought eight new patrol ships to replace its ageing fleet, while cutting funding for the federal police, customs, Border Protection Service and ASIO.

Sea patrols to Australia's south will be reduced to intensify surveillance over main people-smuggling routes to the north where most Sri Lankan and Afghan asylum seekers sail.

"Protecting Australia's borders from threats of terrorism, people smuggling, organised crime, including trafficking of illicit goods and illegal foreign fishing, is a top priority for investment by the Rudd government," Immigration Minister Chris Evans said.

The government also pledged more than \$200 million to renovate detention centres at Christmas Island, Darwin and Sydney. An upgrade to residential facilities in Port Augusta, South Australia, is also planned.

<http://www.smh.com.au/business/federal-budget/terrorism-alert-intensifies-ocean-patrols-20100511-uv2m.html>

Human Rights

Thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council

Australia played an active role at the thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva (1-26 March), engaging on pressing human rights issues and encouraging respect for international human rights standards.

The Australian delegation reinforced concerns, previously raised by Foreign Minister Stephen Smith, about legislation under consideration in Uganda that could provide for life imprisonment or, in some cases, the death penalty for homosexuality. Australia, with Canada and New Zealand, said that "sexual orientation or gender identity must never be the basis for discrimination, abuse, criminal action and penalties, detention or imprisonment, or deprivation of any human right".

The rights of persons with disabilities was a particular focus of the Council session. Australia was pleased to share its experiences in the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in a panel discussion.

Australia demonstrated its commitment to uphold human rights values by co-sponsoring resolutions on: torture; countering terrorism; sexual violence against children; the rights of minority groups; sport free from racism; human rights defenders and human rights education.

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/media/releases/department/2010/100327.html>

Cyber-racism summit

On 27 April 2010, the Australian Human Rights Commission and Internet Industry Association hosted a one day Summit to start a conversation about the issue of cyber-racism and to work together to develop effective solutions.

More than 50 people from a wide range of groups in our society attended the day. The groups included representatives from federal government agencies, internet service providers, social networking companies, NGOs, academics, and young people.

Nine themes emerged during the Summit:

1. While all recognise the positive power of the Internet, it is clear that it can be used inappropriately to convey racist messages which can do harm.
2. The challenge is to both incorporate cyber-racism within cyber-safety strategies and develop new initiatives focusing on cyber-racism itself.
3. There is a need to better recognise, showcase and share the strategies and initiatives which are already working and find ways to adapt and grow them.
4. Any strategy to address cyber-racism should include a wide range of measures to reach and empower different categories of people involved in cyber-racism (including instigators of racism, participants in racist online groups, observers to those web pages and people harmed by the racism).
5. Traditional regulatory responses alone will not solve the issue of cyber-racism - the problem is too big and fast moving for regulation to be effective.
6. One of the most powerful ways to start addressing cyber-racism is to harness the positive potential of the Internet, social media and social marketing to educate the community about racism and empower them to participate in positive social change.
7. Any strategy to address cyber-racism needs to focus on young people - the biggest users of Internet tools.
8. There is a need for better communication and co-operation amongst all the parties who engage in this space – including amongst those groups who participated in the Summit.

9. There are gaps in the research around cyber-racism, and most definitely gaps in understanding about the issue of cyber-racism.

The Australian Human Rights Commission and the Internet Industry Association are committed to working with each other, and with others who are engaged and interested in the cyber-safety and cyber-racism space, to make sure that the dialogue that started during the Summit continues and that the next steps are developed in a collaborative manner.

www.hreoc.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2010/38_10.html

Male leaders build momentum for women in business

A new leadership group of male CEOs and Chairmen, from a diverse set of Australian companies, has been formed to elevate the issue of women's representation in the corporate sector on the national business agenda.

The leadership group, established at a meeting with the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick, will use their collective influence and personal commitment to develop and drive strategies to progress gender equality in the Australian corporate sector. The formation of the group was prompted by the ASX Corporate Governance Council recommendations on diversity, which require each listed entity on the ASX to adopt and disclose a diversity policy that includes measurable objectives relating to gender.

"The commitment and enthusiasm of these men will be one of the most significant factors in achieving success and building momentum toward the adoption of the ASX Council reforms, which are due to be implemented in January 2011," Commissioner Broderick said.

"Any business that wants to fully understand the marketplace needs to ensure it has the right mix of people, skills and experience in decision-making positions. If you don't have a diverse workplace, you run the risk of being less competitive. In other words, gender diversity is good for business."

Commissioner Broderick said that the importance of gender equality in senior business decision-making should not be undervalued: "Everyday, boards and corporate decision makers are influencing our lives – from the decisions that are made about the products we consume, how we live, what we eat, how we are entertained and what services we can access – so it is imperative that this sort of decision-making has equal representation from both genders."

www.hreoc.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2010/33_10.html

Important steps to better protect human rights

The federal government response to the National Human Rights Consultation Committee Report includes important steps to improve the understanding of human rights in Australia but has missed the opportunity to create an adequate national system of protection, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission Cathy Branson QC said.

President Branson said the Commission welcomed the Government's commitment to enhanced human rights education, to reviewing and consolidating federal discrimination laws, and to introducing processes to scrutinise new legislation for human rights compliance.

"These measures will contribute to a greater understanding and awareness of human rights in Australia and will give greater prominence to human rights in our Parliamentary processes," Ms Branson said.

But, she said, the Commission was disappointed the Government had decided not to implement at this stage the Committee's major recommendation for a Human Rights Act. "The Government has missed the opportunity to provide comprehensive human rights protection for everyone in Australia through adopting a national Human Rights Act," she said. "Without a Human Rights Act, human rights

protection in Australia remains piecemeal and inadequate. There remain too many instances where a person whose human rights have been breached can do nothing about it."

www.hreoc.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2010/34_10.html

First equal pay test case

Australia's first equal pay test case under the Fair Work Australia legislation could lead to clearer guidelines on what equal pay for work of equal or comparable value means. Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick says the test case brought last month by the Australian Services Union could deliver potential increases in the pay packets of more than 200,000 community sector workers who are largely women.

"If Fair Work Australia (FWA) determines that the work of ASU members is undervalued, it could lead to other equal pay cases being brought before FWA and potentially to salary increases for other sectors," Commissioner Broderick said. "A large proportion of the Australian population remains unaware that Australian women receive 83 cents for every dollar a man earns for equal or comparable work. This case allows us to educate the community about what equal pay really means."

e-bulletin of the Australian Human Rights Commission, April 2010 at www.humanrights.gov.au

Know your rights: Sex discrimination and sexual harassment

Laws to protect you against discrimination

The Sex Discrimination Act 1984 aims to ensure that women and men across Australia are treated equally and have the same opportunities. It protects people from discrimination on the grounds of sex, pregnancy and marital status, as well as protecting workers with family responsibilities. The Act also makes sexual harassment against the law. The Act gives effect to Australia's international obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The Act makes it against the law for people to discriminate against you in many areas of public life, including:

- Employment
- Education – whether at school, university, TAFE or other colleges.
- Buying goods and using services – such as being served in a restaurant or using taxis, banks and legal services.
- Accommodation and housing – such as renting or buying a house or unit or buying or selling land.
- Commonwealth laws and programs
- Playing sport – including when enrolling, competing or access to mainstream competitions.

Read *Know your rights* at:

http://www.humanrights.gov.au/sex_discrimination/publication/guide/index.html

Move to improve quality of care for disabled patients

Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Graeme Innes, welcomed the proposal of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) to ensure better access to medical care for people with a disability by making it mandatory for general practice surgeries to have height adjustable examination beds in order to meet industry standards.

RACGP has issued its draft 4th edition of the Standards for general practices and has taken the opportunity to propose height adjustable examination beds become a 'flagged' or required item.

“Over the years we have heard many distressing stories of patients being examined on the floor, having to lean over the doctor’s desk, having to lay back in their wheelchair or not being examined at all because they could not get onto the fixed height beds.”

“RACGP has worked hard over the past few years to educate its members about the benefits of having height adjustable examination beds for both patients and staff and this move will help ensure people with mobility difficulties have access to the same quality care as other patients,” said Commissioner Innes.

http://humanrights.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2010/30_10.html

Education

Australian National Engineering Taskforce

Minister for Education and Employment, Julia Gillard, recently announced the Australian Government would provide \$350 000 for two new research projects to boost the nation’s engineering workforce. Ms Gillard said the projects would be conducted by Australian National Engineering Taskforce (ANET) to assist both the education sector and the industry to combat engineering shortages. The first project will study demand and supply of engineering skills while the second will research pathways for engineering education in the vocational education and training and university sectors.

Ms Gillard made the announcement following a tour of the Gorgon Plant on Barrow Island, the second-largest natural gas project in Australia’s history and modern-day equivalent to the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme. She said the taskforce would build on recent increases in engineering university applications to help protect the industry from future skills shortages.

The two projects will:

- analyse supply and demand by key industries;
- detail issues hindering the industry and suggest changes for improved workforce development;
- identify and promote existing solutions that are working well, and
- identify policies for workforce development through education, professional development, HR management and migration.

http://www.deewr.gov.au/ministers/gillard/media/releases/pages/article_100330_142442.aspx

Our unis could set up in India

Australian universities would be free to set up campuses and issue degrees in one of the world’s biggest education markets if an Indian government plan to open up its tertiary education sector to foreign competition wins the support of Parliament.

India’s national Cabinet has approved a Bill that would allow foreign education providers to operate in India amid booming demand for tertiary education. About half of India’s 1.15 billion people are under 25 years of age and Kapil Sibal, India’s Minister for Human Resource Development, said that 40 million young people will be going to university over the next 10 years in India.

"This is a milestone which will enhance choices, increase competition and benchmark quality," he said of the Bill. "A larger revolution than even in the telecom sector awaits us." However, the Bill would require foreign players in the Indian tertiary sector to meet stringent conditions. Those aspiring to open a campus will have to invest a minimum of \$13 million and would be prohibited from repatriating profits. Australian institutions are among about 50 foreign universities that have expressed interest in setting up campuses in India, according to Indian media reports.

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/our-unis-could-set-up-in-india-20100316-qcml.html>

Australia Increases Support for Education in Bhutan

Australia will work with the Royal Government of Bhutan to ensure school children have access to basic facilities and education throughout their student lives. The announcement was made recently by the Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance, the Honourable Bob McMullan MP, during his visit to Bhutan. This will bring the total number of Australia Awards scholarships for Bhutan to more than 40 annually, Mr McMullan said.

http://www.aisaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Latest&ID=2207_8518_9055_7489_5207

United Nations/Foreign Affairs

Secretary General Pledges UN Support for Indigenous Peoples

UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, has delivered a rousing statement at the United Nations saying that the UN will continue to support and protect the human rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Ban Ki-moon told the six hundred delegates from around the world 'you are full and equal members of the United Nations family'.

For many of the delegates attending the United Nations for the first time this was an unexpected and emotional welcome, vastly different to the treatment they have historically received from governments.

The Secretary General quickly highlighted the importance of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Calling the Declaration a 'landmark document' the Secretary General said UN Member States and indigenous peoples sought to reconcile with their painful histories.

'We need development that is underpinned by the values of reciprocity, solidarity and collectivity,' he said. 'And we need development that allows indigenous peoples to exercise their right to self-determination through participation in decision-making on an equal basis.'

At the end of his speech he repeated his opening sentiment. 'The United Nations will continue to support you,' he said. 'I call on all Governments, indigenous peoples, the UN system and all other partners to ensure that the vision behind the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples becomes a reality for all.'

For further information on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples see:

www.iwgia.org/sw248.asp

Healthy returns on Australian aid investment

With funding from Australia and other countries, two major pharmaceutical firms will supply new potentially life-saving pneumonia vaccines to millions of children in the world's poorest countries. Pneumonia is the biggest global killer of children under five—accounting for 1 in four deaths or some 800,000 children.

It is estimated the introduction of suitable and affordable vaccines against the disease could save approximately 900,000 lives by 2015 and up to seven million lives by 2030.

The GAVI Alliance is a global health partnership between the private and public sectors committed to saving children's lives and protecting people's health by increasing access to immunisation in low-income countries. The GAVI Alliance was launched in 2000 as a partnership between multilateral organisations—such as UNICEF, WHO, the World Bank and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation—and bilateral aid organisations, developing country governments, public health and research institutes, civil society, and vaccine manufacturers from industrialised and developing countries.

Australia is one of 12 bilateral donors to the GAVI Alliance and recently fulfilled its US\$20 million pledge to GAVI over four years (2006 to 2009) and is currently considering further support.

http://www.ausaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Latest&ID=849_4986_6313_7785_2939

Resources

The People of Australia

The Australian Multicultural Advisory Council's statement on cultural diversity and recommendations to government

You can download a copy of this report from:

www.immi.gov.au/about/stakeholder-engagement/national/advisory/amac/

Population Flows: Immigration Aspects 2008-2009

Publication prepared by the Economic Analysis Unit, Department of Immigration and Citizenship.
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This publication is available at www.immi.gov.au. You can also request a copy from:
EconomicAnalysis@immi.gov.au.

A shorter version, "Population flows at a glance", is available at:
http://www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/media-releases/_pdf/20100526-population-flows-at-a-glance.pdf.

Speeches

"Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010"

House of Representatives
26 May 2010

Delivered by the Hon. Laurie Ferguson, MP

A copy is available at:

www.openaustralia.org/debate/?id=2010-05-26.35.1

"Australia and China in the World"

2010 Morrison Lecture
Australian National University
Canberra

Delivered by the Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on 23 April 2010

Copy available at: <http://www.pm.gov.au/node/6700>

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