

## Media Release **No. 588**

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### **TSRA resolve to RECOGNISE**

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) has met with the organisation behind the push for recognition of Indigenous peoples in the Australian Constitution at its board meeting last week.

RECOGNISE, the organisation behind the movement for the recognition and part of Reconciliation Australia, briefed the board on its activities and the Journey to Recognition relay in the region.

TSRA Chairman Joseph Elu said it was important to acknowledge the history, culture and languages of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal peoples in Australia's founding document.

"While the Constitution of Australia is the supreme law under which the Commonwealth Government of Australia operates, it was written at a time when Indigenous Australians were not recognised," said Mr Elu.

"Since then many historic events have taken place, including the Mabo decision, which now make it more important than ever to bring the document up to date.

"We are pleased an organisation such as RECOGNISE has been tasked to inform our communities about how they can play a part in reshaping our national Constitution for the betterment of our peoples and nation."

RECOGNISE's role is to promote the push to recognise Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal peoples in the Australian Constitution and to ensure there is no place for racial discrimination in the document.

Joint campaign director Tanya Hosch said RECOGNISE were honoured to have been welcomed to the Torres Strait.

"After meeting with the TSRA board we feel strengthened in our resolve to keep pushing towards referendum day," said Ms Hosch.

While in the Torres Strait, RECOGNISE campaigners also discussed hosting the Journey to Recognition relay as it continues its travels across the nation, holding events and engaging local communities in the movement.

**ENDS**

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