



Shaping the future

NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE • 2013

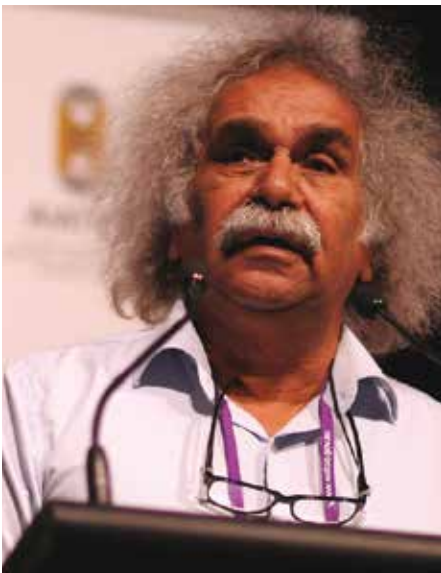
The 14th National Native Title Conference was co-convened by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and the Central Land Council in Alice Springs from 3–5 June 2013. It was held on the lands of the Central Arrernte people, the traditional owners of the Alice Springs region. This year was the 20th anniversary of the *Native Title Act 1993* which was reflected in our title – ‘Shaping the Future’. The Native Title Conference has built a reputation for attracting powerful and passionate speakers. This year was no different.

Some 700 delegates attended this year’s conference, half of whom identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The conference promotes native title as an agenda for justice for people and country, including the broader relationships between traditional owners and country.

AIATSIS is proud of the strong Indigenous traditions of the conference, including the Welcome to Country ceremony, Indigenous Talking Circles, the Mabo Lecture, and preconference workshops for Native Title Representative Bodies and Prescribed Bodies Corporate. The conference embraces cultural diversity within Indigenous societies and values dynamic intercultural conversations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous delegates.



L-R, top-bottom: Performance by Alice Springs school children; Introductory remarks by Gail Mabo; Welcome to Country by Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation; Michael Bennie from Parna Ngururpa RNTBC. Credit: Matthew O’Rourke.



Crowd watching the cultural program; Mick Dodson, Chair of AIATSIS; Maurie Japarta Ryan, Chair of the Central Land Council; Keynote address by Professor Robert A. Williams Jr; Plenary session by Indigenous Social Justice Commissioners Mick Dodson, Tom Calma and Mick Gooda; Drum Atweme, a drumming group made up of young people from town camps in Alice Springs. Credit: Matthew O'Rourke.



L-R, top-bottom: Keynote address by Brian Wyatt, CEO, National Native Title Council; Dr Lisa Strelein, Director of Research - Indigenous Country and Governance, AIATSIS; The Black Arm Band performing *dirtsong*; Jimmy Brown from Tjamu Tjamu RNTBC; Performance by Alice Springs school children; Marlkirdi Rose, Warlpiri Education and Training Trust. Credit Matthew O'Rourke.