

## Law Council forwards Draft Uniform Rules to Commissioner

The Law Council of Australia today forwarded to the Commissioner of the Uniform Legal Services Council, drafts of proposed Uniform Rules of Legal Practice, Professional Conduct and Continuing Professional Development approved by the Law Council, Law Institute of Victoria and Law Society of New South Wales.

The Law Council President-elect and Chair of the Law Council's Legal Profession Uniform Law Working Group, Mr Duncan McConnel, said the provision of the draft Uniform Rules to the Commissioner marked a significant step towards a unified legal profession in the two largest jurisdictions in Australia.

"The legal profession itself has developed and arrived at these agreed rules independently and without outside intervention by other policy makers.

"These rules represent the first occasion in which New South Wales and Victoria have come to an agreement about a single system for conducting solicitors legal practice, legal education and professional conduct in their two States.

"It is a remarkable achievement which reflects the enormous goodwill on all sides towards achieving the long held goal of a truly national Australian legal profession.

"I would like to thank the members of the Working Group, particularly those members from the Law Institute of Victoria and the Law Society of New South Wales, who have worked so hard to achieve this outcome," Mr McConnel said.

The Law Council of Australia has a number statutory responsibilities under the Uniform Law in New South Wales and Victoria and is responsible for the provision of suggestions and comments to the Legal Services Council and Commissioner for Uniform Legal Services Regulation Uniform Rules and Guidelines.

The Working Group will continue to work on draft rules for submission to the Council in the coming months.

---

**Vanessa Kleinschmidt, Director, Government and Corporate Affairs**

P. 02 6246 3716 // M. 0408 014 110

E. [vanessa.kleinschmidt@lawcouncil.asn.au](mailto:vanessa.kleinschmidt@lawcouncil.asn.au) // [www.lawcouncil.asn.au](http://www.lawcouncil.asn.au)