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9th ANNUAL AIJA TRIBUNALS CONFERENCE

Rydges Lakeside, Canberra, 6-7 April 2006

Tribunal Practice in an International Context

PROGRAMME

The AIJA is delighted that several overseas speakers are able to participate in this years Tribunals Programme. It acknowledges the assistance of Professor Robin Creyke in arranging for these overseas visitors to be available to participate in the AIJA Tribunals Conference. The theme of the Conference is "Tribunal Practice in an International Context" but the programme is very much focused on contemporary issues of importance to those in the Australian Tribunals system.

THURSDAY 6 APRIL

12.00 noon Registration.

1.30 pm **WELCOME AND OPENING**

The Hon Justice John Byrne, Supreme Court of Queensland, AIJA President

1.40 pm **SESSION ONE**

Chair: The Hon Justice Garry Downes AM

Keynote address: UK Tribunals – a Quiet Revolution

[The Rt. Hon Sir Robert Carnwath CVO](#), Lord Justice of Appeal & Senior President Designate of the United Kingdom Tribunals Service

Commentator: The Hon Justice Bruce Robertson, Court of Appeal, New Zealand and former President of the New Zealand Law Commission

3.10 pm Afternoon Tea

3.40 pm **SESSION TWO**

Chair: Professor Robin Creyke, Faculty of Law & Alumni Chair of Administrative Law

Taking evidence and making decisions

Presenters: [Associate Professor France Houle](#), Faculty of Law, Université de Montréal & Visiting Fellow of the Australian National University

[Associate Professor Ken Mackinnon](#), [PPT](#), University of Waikato, New Zealand

5.00 pm Close

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of COAT will take place immediately after the close of session two and is open to all heads of tribunals. A notice of meeting will be sent to members.

7.00 for **CONFERENCE DINNER – THE BOATHOUSE BY THE LAKE**

7.30 pm *Speaker: The Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG, Justice of the High Court of Australia*

FRIDAY 7 APRIL

9.00 am SESSION THREE

Chair: Professor Greg Reinhardt, Executive Director, AIJA

Child support appeals and tribunals – lessons from the UK

Presenter: [Professor Nick Wikeley, PPT](#), John Wilson Chair in Law, University of Southampton

9.30 am SESSION FOUR

Chair: Professor Greg Reinhardt, Executive Director, AIJA

Training and induction of Tribunal members

Presenter: [Ms Mary Holmes, PPT](#), Senior Training Adviser and Head of Tribunals Training, UK

Commentator: [Dr Pamela O'Connor](#), Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Monash University

10.30 am Morning Tea

11.00 am Launch of the COAT Benchbook by The Hon Bob Debus, MP, New South Wales Attorney-General

The Hon Justice Garry Downes AM

The Hon Justice John Byrne

11.10 am SESSION FIVE

Chair/Coordinator: [Mr John Lesser](#), President, Mental Health Review Board of Victoria and Deputy Chair of COAT

QLD, Ms Ann Lyons, Guardianship and Administration Tribunal

NZ, Ms Trish McConnell, Principal Tenancy Adjudicator

ACT, Mr Michael Peedom, Administrative Appeals Tribunal

NSW, Ms Kay Ransome, Convenor COAT

SA, Ms Pat Patrick, State Convenor

This session is designed to allow each chapter of COAT to provide information concerning current activities and issues relevant to Tribunals in their jurisdiction.

12.30 pm Lunch

1.45 pm SESSION SIX

Chair: Ms Anne Coghlan, Deputy President – General, Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

Expert evidence and Tribunals

Presenter: [His Hon Judge John Chaney SC, PPT](#), Deputy President, State Administrative Tribunal (WA)

Commentator: Dr Gabriel Fleming, Deputy President of the Workers' Compensation Commission, NSW

2.30 pm SESSION SEVEN

Chair: Mr Michael Peedom, President, ACT Administrative Appeals Tribunal

Conflict of interest and bias

Presenters: [Ms Ema Aitken PPT](#), Chair of the Refugee Status Appeals Authority, New Zealand

[Ms Penny Letts, PPT](#), Lecturer/Consultant, Member of the UK Council on Tribunals

3.30 pm Afternoon Tea

4.00 pm SESSION EIGHT

Chair: Ms Anne Wallace, Deputy Executive Director, AIJA

Tribunals and independence

Presenter: [Professor Phil Bryden, PPT](#), Dean, Faculty of Law, University of New Brunswick, Canada

4.45 pm Close

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