

Women for Wik

A member group of ANTaR (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation National Coalition)

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PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL TREASURES JOIN WOMEN FOR WIK

Women recently voted as some of our most distinguished Australians have endorsed the Women for Wik statement calling for the Six Steps to Reconciliation. These National Treasures include Margaret Fulton, Lois O'Donoghue, Dr Germaine Greer, Hazel Hawke, Margaret Whitlam, Caroline Jones, Evonne Cawley, Faith Bandler, Judith Wright, Betty Archdale, Elizabeth Jolley, Jennie George, Gabi Hollows and Ruth Cracknell.

As Caroline Jones broadcaster and Australian Living Treasure said, **"Reconciliation is now a crucial mainstream issue for Australian women."**

Over one hundred Australian women's organisations have also joined in to endorse the statement which urges the Howard government to apologise for past wrongs and to respect the democratic rights of all Australian citizens. These organisations, local, national and international, range from Women and the Australian Church Inc, International Women's Development Agency, to North Queensland Combined Women's Service Inc, Women's Electoral Lobby (Australia) to The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia. These organisations represent hundreds of thousands of Australian women.

International Women's Day Australia has made Native Title their theme for 1998 and the Women for Wik statement will be read out at rallies and gatherings throughout Australia.

These endorsements are a clear message to the Government that a significant and fast-growing groundswell of Australian women voters strongly support coexistence and reconciliation .

Margaret Fulton will be available to the media from 9am to noon on 3rd March. Phone Rosie Scott 02 - 9552 1427 for details and further information