

Recent developments concerning the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Symposium Program

Tuesday 24 April 2012

- 8.45am **Coffee and registration**
- 9am **Welcome and opening**
- 9.10 – 10am ***Third Optional Protocol to CROC***
Chair: Tania Penovic, Monash Law School
- Associate Professor Paula Gerber, Monash University: *10 things you should know about the new Optional Protocol*
 - Associate Professor John Tobin, University of Melbourne: *Likely impact of the Optional Protocol on the protection of children's rights*
- 10 – 10.30am *Morning Tea*
- 10.30am – Noon ***The Committee on the Rights of the Child review of Australia***
Chair: Elizabeth Handsley, Professor of Law, Flinders University
- Ben Schokman, Human Rights Law Centre – *The CRC's review of Australia.*
 - Franca Musolino, Principal Legal Officer, International Human Rights Law Section, Attorney General's Department – *Australia's report to the CRC and the Government's position on ratifying the new Optional Protocol to CROC*
 - Chris Varney, Former Australian Youth Representative to the United Nations – *The Shadow report to the CRC*
- Noon – 1pm *Lunch*
- 1 – 2.30pm ***Current initiatives to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child***
Chair: Sally Sheppard, Partner Clayton Utz Lawyers
- The Hon Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC, Chair of Children's Rights International – *Child Justice programs in Vietnam and Cambodia*
 - Vanessa Zimmerman Legal Advisor at UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General Business & Human Rights – *Children's Rights and Business Principles initiative*
 - Glenn Bond, Program Effectiveness Manager, Plan Australia – *Children's Rights and Gender Equality*
- 2.30 – 2.45pm **Concluding remarks**

