

GENEVA: August 2010

"Loss of Rights" accessed at:

<http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/Portals/3/docs/CERD%20report%20%28final%29%20internet%20version%2010072010%20Copy.pdf>

Rev Dr Djiniyini Gondarra OAM said of the visit to the UN, *"The environment in which we were speaking was one focused solely on human rights; it was not intruded upon by politics. We were able to reach the heights in dialogue and understanding that we hadn't expected."*

Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM agreed and said, *"I went to the UN to relieve my pain by being able*

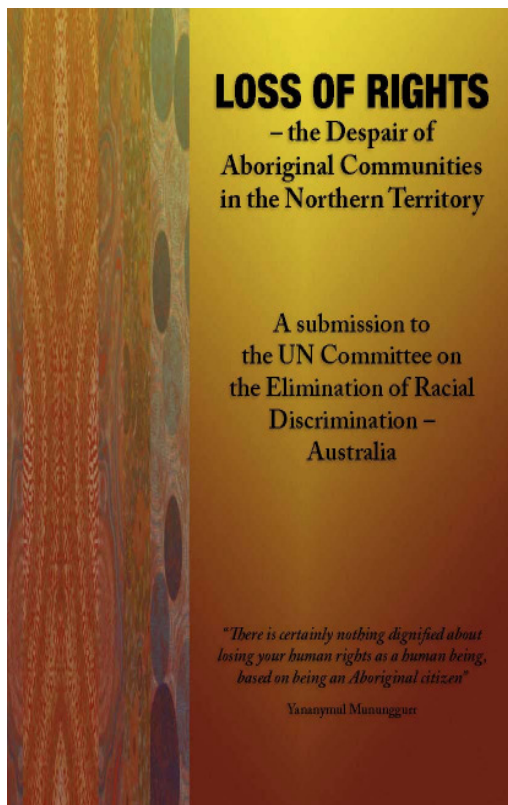
**'concerned Australians' and the UN
Convention on the Elimination All Forms of
Racial Discrimination 1966**

This Convention has been ratified by more than 156 countries around the world. Australia ratified the Convention almost 35 years ago, in 1975. The Committee, made up of 18 international experts meets in Geneva every 6 months and Australia reports to the Committee every 2 years when its turn comes around. Each country is obliged to show the Committee how it has complied with the Convention and to report on the changes it has made in response to recommendations made by the Committee since the previous meeting.

The Government's report for the August 2010 meeting can be found at www.dfat.gov.au

In addition to the report from government, reports from NGO's and Individuals or groups of individuals can also be submitted.

The main NGO report was compiled by National Association of Community Legal Centres. It is an excellent report and 'concerned Australians' have endorsed it. To complement this report and to



provide an opportunity for the people of the Northern Territory to express their views to the Committee, 'concerned Australians' submitted an additional report, "Loss of Rights". This report is in 2 parts, the first being a legal overview which was written by Professor Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC. The second part of the report provides a framework within which the voices of Aboriginal people from across the Northern Territory are able to provide some insights into their desperation.

The 'Loss of Rights' report was presented in Geneva by Rev. Dr. Djiniyini Gondarra OAM from Galiwin'ku and Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM from Utopia in Central Australia. *See next page for report links.*

Should you wish to have a hard copy of the report, please contact us at harrisme@bigpond.com
Sadly we are unable to cover the cost of printing and will need to pass this on to you - \$6 plus postage.

National Association of Community Legal Services:

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/ngos/NACLCHRLRC_Australia77.pdf

'concerned Australians':

<http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/Portals/3/docs/CERD%20report%20%28final%29%20internet%20version%2010072010%20Copy.pdf>

Intervention Rollback Action Group: www.rollbacktheintervention.wordpress.com

Amnesty International: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/ngos/AI_Australia77.pdf

National Native Title Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/ngos/NNC_Australia77.doc

Australian Government Submission: <http://www.dfat.gov.au>

Djinyini and Rosalie at the Podium (top) Djinyini and Rosalie with Graeme Innes, Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner (bottom)

