

# COMPETITION POLICY REVIEW

## REFORMS TO COMPETITION POLICY

A revised set of competition principles should guide the Commonwealth, state, territory and local governments in implementing those aspects of competition policy for which they are responsible.

### Priority areas for reform



#### Human Services

- Promote user choice
- Separate policy (including funding), regulation and delivery
- Encourage diversity of provision
- Encourage innovation in service delivery



#### Transport

- Introduce cost-reflective road pricing in a revenue-neutral way
- Reform liner shipping
- Reform aviation and shipping cabotage restrictions



#### Intellectual property

- The PC should conduct an overarching review of IP
- Review IP provisions in trade agreements
- Repeal licensing exception from CCA



#### Regulatory restrictions

All governments to review regulations and remove unnecessary restrictions on competition.

##### Priority areas for review:

- planning and zoning
- taxis; and
- mandatory product standards

##### Areas for immediate reform action:

- retail trading hours
- parallel imports; and
- pharmacy



#### Competitive neutrality

- Update policies
- Improve complaints processes
- Increase reporting transparency



#### Government procurement

- Review policies governing commercial arrangements
- Promoting competition should be a central feature of government procurement and privatisation frameworks and processes
- Apply competition laws to governments acting in trade or commerce



#### Electricity, gas & water

- Finalise energy reform, including deregulating retail prices
- Progress implementation of the principles of the National Water Initiative
- Review competition in gas market



#### Informed choice

- Governments should work with industry, consumer groups and privacy experts to allow consumers to access information in an efficient format to improve informed consumer choice