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Sent: Friday, 14 June 2024 1:59 PM

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Subject: Invitation to join Secretaries Working Group on Gender Based Violence
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Colleagues,

As foreshadowed at Secretaries Board, I write to invite you to participate in the Secretaries Working Group to consider responses to gender based violence.

The purpose of the Working Group is to drive work the Commonwealth's response to the outcomes from the National Cabinet meeting held on 1 May. This forum will also support the generation and testing of ideas for Government to bring forth to National Cabinet when it is next expected to meet in September.

Please also note we expect the Prime Minister will likely write to all Cabinet Ministers to seek advice on how their portfolios can contribute to the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children, including through addressing where perpetrators of family and domestic violence may manipulate Government systems to control, threaten or harass a current or former partner. It will be critical for us to consider systems abuse as we approach this work.

The Office for Women (OfW) has co-convened an SES B2/1 IDC with DSS which will support the working group, and our collective efforts more broadly through other mechanisms such as First Secretaries Group, First Deputies Group, the Data and Digital Ministers Meeting and the Women and Women's Safety Council.

I would like to propose an initial meeting in early July for a focused discussion on progress so far, and to share ideas on how to prioritise options for the Prime Minister to consider to take back to ERC and National Cabinet.

The OfW team will be in contact with your offices to confirm availability and find a time that works best for us all.

I look forward to driving this critical work with you.

Regards,

Glyn

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The Department acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Elders and Traditional Custodians of Country, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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