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**Human Genetics Advisory Committee**

**Human Genetics Advisory Committee (HGAC)  
First Public Meeting with Community and Stakeholder Organisations  
Melbourne Convention Centre  
8 June 2006**

The HGAC and the NHMRC Secretariat would like to thank all who came to the committee's first public meeting.

This is the first of what we hope will be many interactions with the community.

The HGAC came away from this meeting with clear messages about priorities and issues in human genetics. In the second half of the day, there was some animated discussion about the ways in which the HGAC could engage more effectively with the community.

The HGAC considered both the issues/priorities as well as the consultative process at its business meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> June – the day after the public meeting. The following was decided:

1. The various questions and issues raised by those attending the meeting will be responded to as soon as possible, and a copy of the questions and responses posted on the HGAC's website. Some working groups will need to refocus some of their priorities.
2. A model for engagement with the community is being drafted and will be sent to all interested parties for further comment. In drafting this model the very strong message coming from the floor was noted. In particular there will be no "selection" process for the Community Consultative Group, and the numbers will not be restricted.

We are also working on the transcript of the 8 June meeting and will send it to you when it is prepared.

Best wishes,

Professor Ron Trent  
Chairman, HGAC  
15 June 2006

Dr Greg Ash  
Acting Executive Director  
NHMRC Centre for Compliance & Evaluation