

# Indigenous MAKE POVERTY HISTORY.

## REMEMBER



This country that we now call Australia always was and always will be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land.

I remember that this country, home to many Indigenous

nations since the beginning of time, was colonized in 1788 and I remember all those Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who have lost their lives since.

I remember all those that have gone before, defending Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands, waterways and cultures.

I remember all those who were taken away from their families and from their ancestral home lands.

I remember with sorrow the lost languages, the lost tribal laws and the desecrated sacred sites.

## RECOGNIZE

I recognize that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia continue to suffer injustices.

I recognize that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are living in poverty.

I recognize that poverty is more than financial disadvantage; it is also social and spiritual.

I recognize that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples continue to suffer from colonization, exclusion and disempowerment.



I recognize that it takes effort and will from everybody - from governments to individuals, from Indigenous and non - Indigenous alike, to change the situation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

I recognize that unless we unite, with a common will, a poverty of spirit will afflict the entire nation.

## RECTIFY

By signing the Poverty Pole Charter:

I commit to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals specifically address the disadvantage suffered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

I commit to identifying achievable poverty reduction strategies with measurable and time bound outcomes to be achieved by 2015.

I commit to holding all elected representatives, and other leaders, accountable to achieving these goals.

I take personal responsibility to understand the causes and effects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' disadvantage and also to inform people when I encounter ignorance or lack of compassion.

I commit to justice for all and to Make Indigenous Poverty History.

