1. In December 2007, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to a partnership between the Australian Government and States and Territories to pursue substantial reform in early childhood development, including reforms to the early childhood education and care quality system. COAG endorsed Australia’s first comprehensive set of aspirations, outcomes, progress measures and future early childhood policy direction in March 2008.
2. On 2 August 2008, a discussion paper was released by the Australian Government providing an initial outline of the issues relating to the development of a new national quality framework.
3. In July 2009, COAG was presented with a national quality reform agenda for consultation, involving:
* a draft national quality standard;
* draft model for service quality rating system; and
* proposed improvements to regulatory arrangements.
1. COAG released a consultation Regulation Impact Statement on Early Childhood Education and Care Quality Reforms for public comment during July-September 2009. During that period, the Australian Government received a range of stakeholder views on the proposed reforms through public forums, focus groups, online surveys and written submissions.
2. State and Territory Governments worked with the Australian Government during September-November 2009 to consider the consultation feedback and develop a draft Decision Regulation Impact Statement for COAG consideration in December 2009.
3. Cabinet approved the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care package for consideration by COAG in December 2009.
4. *Attachments*
* [Decision Regulation Impact Statement for Early Childhood Education and Care Quality Reforms](Attachments/ris_early_childhood_education_care_quality_reforms.pdf)
* [National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care](Attachments/national_partnership_on_early_childhood_education.pdf)
* [National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care attachment to the COAG communiqué](Attachments/Attachment%20to%20COAG%20Communique%207%20Dec%202009.docx)