



## *m e d i a            a l e r t*

— Sunday 20 May, 2007 —

### **Govt dithers as blackfellas keep dying!**

**An article to be published in the *Medical Journal of Australia* tomorrow lifts the lid on the Commonwealth government's illegal violations of United Nations provisions and its willful neglect of Aboriginal health.**

At a time when many individual Australians enjoy the substantial profits and proceeds of our remarkable economic boom, the Commonwealth continues to penny-pinch and refuses to dip in to this nation's \$10.5 billion cash surplus to bring about 'health equity' for Australia's most disadvantaged.

Its refusal to act in the interests of all people flies in the face of our obligations under the UN's International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)—to use the "maximum of available resources" to realise the population's right to health services.

The *MJA* article was written by the NACCHO CEO, Dea Delaney Thiele, and Public Health Officer, Dr Sophie Couzos, and is a 'must read' for all journalists with an eye and ear for the 'back story' to the government's continuing failure in Aboriginal health.

#### **Interviews/information:**

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