



## Remuneration Tribunal

### Remuneration in Australia's Federal Courts

#### Statement

The Remuneration Tribunal issued a Report in October 2009 following an extensive review of remuneration relativities among judicial offices within Australia's federal courts<sup>1</sup>. As a result of the conclusions reached in that Report, the Tribunal decided that an increase of 6% in remuneration for various judicial offices was sustainable on work value grounds, additional to any general adjustment to public offices determined by the Tribunal.

However, due both to the economic uncertainties at that time and to the expected changes in the structures of the courts providing family law services, the Tribunal decided that it would implement its decision over an extended period, with full implementation expected by 1 May 2011.

Since October 2009 the Tribunal has determined three 1.5% increases, taking effect from 1 November 2009, 1 May 2010 and 1 November 2010. The Tribunal issued accompanying statements with the two latter increases<sup>2</sup>.

In its most recent, October 2010, statement, the Tribunal noted that the courts concerned with family law had continued to improve their processes and that further decisions about changing federal justice structures were up to the Parliament in the form of amending legislation.

This remains the case. Under these circumstances, the Tribunal has decided to finalise the decision set out in its October 2009 Report by determining a further 1.5% increase for all federal judicial offices with effect from 1 May 2011.

The Tribunal will consider the question of whether differences in work value within the federal court structure require attention in the future – for example in the context of the expected legislation when it is brought before the Parliament or as a consequence of the Tribunal's review of other offices within its determinative jurisdiction.

Remuneration Tribunal  
28 April 2011

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<sup>1</sup> At:

<http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/statementsreports/2009%20Review%20of%20Remuneration%20Relativities%20among%20Australia's%20Federal%20Courts%20Report%20-%202012%20Oct%202009.pdf>

<http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/statementsreports/Judicial%20statement%2013%20April%202010.pdf>; and <http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/statementsreports/JudicialStatementOct2010.pdf> respectively