

Manager  
Philanthropy and Exemptions Unit  
The Treasury  
Langton Crescent  
PARKES ACT 2600

8 December 2011

Dear Manager

## **A definition of charity - consultation paper**

We welcome the opportunity to make a submission on your consultation paper:  
*A definition of charity.*

Our organisation, United World Colleges (Australia) Trust Limited, is a non-profit public company limited by guarantee. We are currently registered as a charity in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania for fundraising purposes but are currently not required to register as a charity for fundraising purposes in the other states and territories. We also do not presently qualify for registration as a deductible gift recipient under Commonwealth law.

The main object of our company is to award scholarships (United World Colleges Scholarships) to Australian students of promise and ability to pursue a course of study at an United World College (UWC). UWC makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. The 13 UWC colleges, located in five different continents, deliver a challenging and transformative educational experience to a diverse cross section of students, inspiring them to create a more peaceful and sustainable future. More information about our organisation and UWC more generally can be found at either our local website at [www.uwc.org.au](http://www.uwc.org.au) or the international website of the UWC movement at [www.uwc.org](http://www.uwc.org).

We support the introduction of a statutory definition of charity, applicable across all Commonwealth laws. We also support, in the longer term, a single definition of charity and charitable purposes for all purposes and for all levels of government. As a small volunteer organisation, with limited resources, which operates across Australia, the current situation where different state and territory regulators apply different standards and regulatory requirements is highly unsatisfactory. Greater harmonisation between the Commonwealth, states and territory governments in this area would relieve us of a significant administrative burden and allow us to concentrate more on our core business.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Kirk', written in a cursive style.

Adam Kirk  
Honorary Secretary  
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