



National Competition Principles: Implementation Timetable

Activity Steps	Short Description of Activity	Expected delivery date	Contingencies
Principle 1 - Governments should harness the benefits of competition			
Maintain competition impact assessment process (Schedule 1, 1a)	The Australian Government Guide to Policy Impact Analysis maintains an impact assessment process for proposed actions of the Australian Government that would result in a more than minor change in behaviour or impact for people, business and community organisations. This process includes an assessment of competition impacts.	Ongoing	N/A
NCP National Reform Agenda (Schedule 1, 1b)	The Australian Government is taking action to remove barriers to competition through the National Reform Agenda under National Competition Policy, including reforms such as removing barriers to 'Right to Repair' and those listed under Principle 5 – Single National Market.	Ongoing: The National Reform Agenda is a 10-year reform program.	
Actively promoting a dynamic, competitive and productive economy	The Australian Government continues to actively promote a dynamic, competitive and productive economy through reforms including:	Ongoing	

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(Schedule 1, 1d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricting the use of non-compete clauses to make it easier for workers to switch to a better job, promoting competitive labour markets and boosting wages. • Establishing a new merger regime to more efficiently and effectively target mergers that are anti-competitive, while allowing mergers that are pro-competitive to proceed faster. 		
Principle 2 - Governments should support consumers to benefit from competition			
Support mechanisms to facilitate consumer empowerment (Schedule 2, 2a)	The Australian Government continues to support consumers to benefit from competition, including through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to strengthen the Unit Pricing Code to make it easier for consumers to make accurate and timely price comparisons, including introducing penalties for non-compliance. • Work on recommendations from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission’s Supermarkets Inquiry to improve the transparency of supermarket prices, price trends, promotions and loyalty programs. • Proposed new penalties for suppliers that refuse to provide consumers with a remedy such as a repair, 	Ongoing	

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	replacement or refund when required under the Australian Consumer Law.		
Principle 3 - Reform of public monopolies, including privatisation, should not harm consumers			
Structural reform of public monopolies should not harm consumers (Schedule 3, 3a-3c)	The Australian Government will ensure structural reforms of public monopolies are undertaken consistent with the revitalised Principle.	Ongoing	
Principle 4 - Government and private businesses should compete on a level playing field			
Maintain a Competitive Neutrality Policy Statement (Schedule 4, 4b)	The Australian Government will maintain a Competitive Neutrality Policy Statement, and update this, as required.	Ongoing	
Maintain a complaints mechanism (Schedule 4, 4d)	The Australian Government Competitive Neutrality Complaints Office (AGCNCO) operates as the Australian Government's competitive neutrality complaint mechanism, with processes consistent with Schedule 4d.		
Principle 5 - Governments should promote a single national market			
Supporting states and territories to remove	The Australian Government is committed to supporting the states and territories to remove barriers to a single national	Ongoing: The National Reform	

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barriers to a single national market (Schedule 5, 5b)	market through the National Reform Agenda under NCP. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting a single national market for goods by promoting the recognition and adoption of international and overseas standards, with priority actions for household electrical consumer products, waste and recycled products and in building and construction. • Supporting a single national market for workers by working towards national approaches to worker screening in the care and support economy and in occupational licensing (including in the electrical trades). • Making it easier to work and do business across borders through streamlined and aligned regulation in the areas of modern methods of construction, commercial planning and zoning, health practitioner scope of practice and heavy vehicle regulation. 	Agenda is a 10-year reform program.	
Principle 6 - Government pricing practices should be efficient and transparent			
Applying prices oversight (Schedule 6, 6a)	Consistent with the revitalised Principle, the Australian Government maintains prices oversight over significant government business enterprises operating monopoly or	Ongoing	

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	near-monopoly businesses through Part VIIA of the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> . Prices oversight is administered by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.		
Maintaining an updated efficient charging guide (Schedule 6, 6b)	<p>The Australian Government maintains the Australian Government Charging Framework, which applies to government-provided goods and services and is updated periodically.</p> <p>The Australian Government will continue to ensure government charges align with the charging principles of transparency, efficiency, performance, equity, simplicity, and policy consistency.</p>	Ongoing	
Principle 7 - Access to significant infrastructure facilities should be on reasonable terms and prices			
No action required	Updates to this Principle recognise the evolution of access regimes, including that issues with third-party access to services provided by significant infrastructure facilities with natural monopoly characteristics are not limited to physical infrastructure facilities.	Not applicable	