

FACT SHEET
Wills Amendment (International Wills) Bill 2012

This Bill amends the *Wills Act 2008* to insert a new Part 5A based on national model legislation to implement the *Convention Providing a Uniform Law on the Form of an International Will*.

In July 2010 the Standing Committee of Attorneys General decided that Australia should take steps to accede to the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) *Convention Providing a Uniform Law on the Form of an International Will 1973* (the Convention).

Adopting the Convention does not affect existing will provisions in any jurisdiction, but provides a form for use when a will has some international characteristics.

Adoption of the Convention will remove the need to delve into the internal law of another jurisdiction to determine the formal validity of a will where that other jurisdiction is also a signatory to the Convention and the international form is used.