



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP**

NEWS RELEASE

014/2009

**EXPANSION OF OVERSEAS ADOPTION PROGRAMS IN HONG KONG
AND TAIWAN**

Attorney-General Robert McClelland today announced the expansion of Australia's overseas adoption programs with Hong Kong and Taiwan.

"Australia's existing adoption programs in Hong Kong and Taiwan operate through two accredited agencies. This expansion increases the number of partner agencies to five," Mr McClelland said.

"The new partner agencies focus on finding families for older children and children with a range of specific needs."

"Programs such as Hong Kong and Taiwan offer an opportunity for Australia to accept more children who are in need of families, whilst ensuring that appropriate safeguards are in place to prevent trafficking."

"The Rudd Government will always prioritise the best interests of the children when managing Australia's intercountry adoption programs."

Further information about the new programs is available at:
www.ag.gov.au/intercountryadoption.

Media Contact: Adam Sims 0419 480 224