EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Variation to Funding Rules made under section 61 of the Australian Research Council Act 2001

Linkage International

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Education, Science and Training

Subject: Australian Research Council Act 2001
Variation to Linkage International Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008

Authority
Section 61 of the Australian Research Council Act 2001 (the Act) allows for variation of a set of rules by the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

Purpose and effect
The Linkage International Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008 were approved under Section 60 of the Act by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, on 23 December 2006. A variation to these rules was approved under Section 61 of the Act by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, on 19 February 2007.

Details of the approved variation to the Linkage International Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008:

i. in subsection 1.1.3 the text ‘December 2006’ has been deleted and replaced with ‘February 2007’; and

ii. in subsection 13.1.10 the current weighting of 20% against selection criterion c. has been deleted and replaced with a weighting of 30%.

Linkage International is a scheme funded under the Australian Research Council’s National Competitive Grants Program. The Linkage International Funding Rules for Funding Commencing in 2008 sets out the eligibility and accountability requirements and other relevant matters for research programs which may be funded under this scheme. The scheme supports the movement of researchers between eligible Australian research organisations and centres of research excellence overseas, and to foster collaboration and networking between Australia-based and overseas researchers, which are approved by the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

Commencement
The variation to the Linkage International Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008 commence the day after they are registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.