Technical Advisory Group on NDIS Functional Capacity – Communiqué

2 November 2026

The fifth meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on NDIS Functional Capacity (TAG) was held today. Professor Christine Imms and Ms Mary Wood, Deputy Secretary, Disability and Carers Group, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, co-chaired the meeting.

Members considered how to incorporate feedback received through consultation and stakeholder engagement in the proposed framework for assessing functional capacity for the purposes of NDIS access. This included responses to the public consultation held from August to October 2026, as well as feedback received from the NDIS Reform Advisory Committee, Disability Representative Organisations, and a number of targeted focus groups, roundtables and workshops.

Members also discussed the development of a model to support a consistent and evidence-based approach to assessing substantially reduced functional capacity for NDIS access. This included assessment pathways and options to streamline the NDIS access process. Members also considered the role of clinical judgement in functional capacity assessments and evidence requirements.

Members were briefed on the development of the NDIS support needs assessment forming part of new framework planning. Discussion focused on opportunities to align support needs and functional capacity assessment processes, with particular emphasis on reducing administrative burden and duplication for prospective participants.

Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister, Minister for the NDIS, and Ms Suzanne Orr MLA, ACT Minister for Disability, Autism and Neurodiversity, attended part of the meeting and were briefed by members on the deliberations to date.

For further information, please contact the TAG Secretariat at TAGSecretariat@health.gov.au.